The Official Magazine of World Championship Wrestling

Issue 20 October 1996

WCW magazine

THE END FOR WCW...?

HOG WILD WCW

Countdown to Havoc

USA $3.95 UK £2.50
CANADA $4.95

10

0 71896 48770

TBS SUPERSTATION

Catch the HOTTEST wrestling action on TV every week!

TNT

MADUSA
WCW
magazine

WCW magazine

COLIN BOWMAN
Editor/Publication Director

ROSS FORMAN
Executive Editor

FOR
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING
DR. HARVEY SCHILLER
President

ERIC BISCHOFF
Senior Vice President &
General Manager

NICK LAMBROS
Vice President
Business & Administration

LYNN BRENT
USA Magazine Co–ordinator

BOBBY HEENAN, GENE OKERLUND,
MADUSA
COL. ROBERT PARKER,
LARRY ZBYSZKO, DUSTY RHODES,
JIMMY HART,
MARK MADDEN, LORD REGAL
Contributing Editors

STEVE LAMPON GAVIN MOWER
Executive Art Directors

ROS SAMUELSON TIM DIGNON
RAY CHARLES
Art Associates

MARTIN COX
Production Manager

DUNCAN WEB OFFSET
Printer

J. STOLL COLIN BOWMAN
MARK HILL
Photography

The entire contents of this publication are copyright ©1996 World Championship Wrestling™. All rights reserved. Hulk Hogan, Hulkamania and Hulkster are trademarks of Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc., licensed to World Championship Wrestling, Inc. All other distinctive names and character likenesses herein are trademarks of World Championship Wrestling, Inc. Nothing in this publication may be reproduced without the express written consent of WCW™ and the Publisher.
WCW™ and the Publisher are not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts. All materials submitted for inclusion in this magazine may be subject to any edits deemed neccesary by the Publisher.
WCW World Championship Wrestling,
(UK ISSN 1357-0137) (USA UPC 71896-48770) (USPS 012544)
is published monthly by Howl Ltd.,
21/23 Earl Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1PL
Single copy price is $3.95 USA, $4.95 CANADA, £2.50 UK. Subscription rates for 12 issues are USA $38.00, UK £24.00. Subscriptions should be sent to
USA & CANADA - WCW Magazine, c/o Colin Bowman, One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA30348-5366.
UK & IRELAND - WCW Magazine,
21/23 Earl Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1PL
US & Canadian distribution by KABLE NEWS COMPANY INC, 11 West 42nd St. New York, NY10036.
UK & Ireland distribution by COMAG Magazine Marketing, Tavistock Rd, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 7QE. Royal Mail International, c/o Yellowstone International, 87 Burlews Court, Hackensack, NJ 07601.
'Second Class Postage Paid at South Hackensack'
'POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Royal Mail International, c/o Yellowstone International, 2375 Pratt Boulevard, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007–5937'
Printed in the United Kingdom

EDITOR'S NOTE

Treachery is an ugly word, but in WCW it is a reality.

Hollywood Hogan started the rot and from then on it has spread. I have even overheard members of the backstage crew talking about helping and joining the NWO. Questions are asked constantly about the loyalties of several WCW wrestlers, including The Nasty Boys.

I am most disappointed with referee Nick Patrick though.

For years I have regarded Nick Patrick to be a fair referee, a man of high principles. It just goes to show how wrong you can be about someone.

I clearly saw him deliberately take out Lex Luger's leg at Hog Wild. I raised the matter with him and then WCW's officials. His explanation that he was dazed was accepted.

The next night at Nitro, I saw him signal for Hollywood Hogan to come down and attack Randy Savage. Again his explanation that he was signaling for a stretcher for Randy Anderson was accepted.

Minutes later he was refereeing a match between The Outsiders and Sting and Lex Luger. During the match he chose to ignore Nash throwing Sting over the top rope and then pulled Hall out of the way of a Stinger Splash. He insisted that Hall had grabbed his arm and pulled himself clear. Again at press time WCW's Officials had chosen to give him the benefit of the doubt.

Well I'm sorry, I can't.

Nick Patrick, you are a double-dealing, cheat.

There you are. I've even put it in writing, so you can sue me for libel. I don't think you will, because you know it's the truth and I am sure that by the time this magazine comes out, you will have been revealed as the slimeball you are and been banned from WCW forever.

I remember that you also used to be a wrestler. That's good, because you're going to need every bit of help you can get when any of the wrestlers you betray get hold of you.

Finally, I would just like to take the unusual step of praising some of WCW's rulebreaking community.

Hail to The Giant and The Four Horsemen for standing up and being counted in the war against the NWO. United, we can overcome the threat and return WCW to a semblance of normality.

Regards,

Colin Bowman
Editor

RING THE BELL on Archive.org

CONTENTS

ISSUE 20 OCTOBER 1996

ISSUE 21 ON SALE OCTOBER 29th 1996

FEATURES

6 HOG WILD
18 NEW WORLD ORDER
22 COUNTDOWN TO HAVOC
29 FROM THE TOP
32 UNDERRATED...WHY?
34 MY DUNGEON WILL DOOM SULLIVAN
36 THE WRIGHT STUFF
38 LARRY Z
40 MASTERS OF THE SUPLEX
42 BLOOD RUNS COLD
44 STILL ON TOP
48 GENESIS – THE DUNGEON IS REBORN

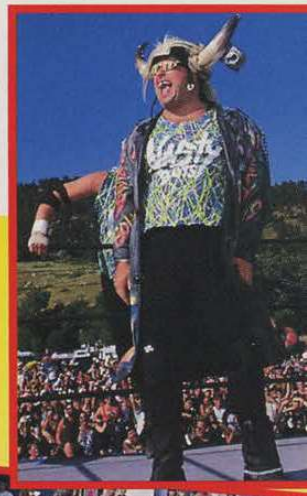
DEPARTMENTS

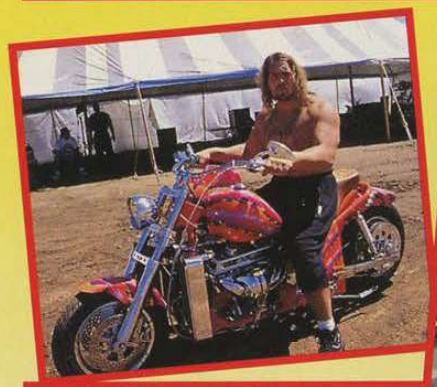
4 WCW UPDATE
16 BRAIN REACTION
21 MADUSA
30 HOTLINE BUZZ
44 EXPERT ASSESSMENT DDP
50 THE REGAL DECREE

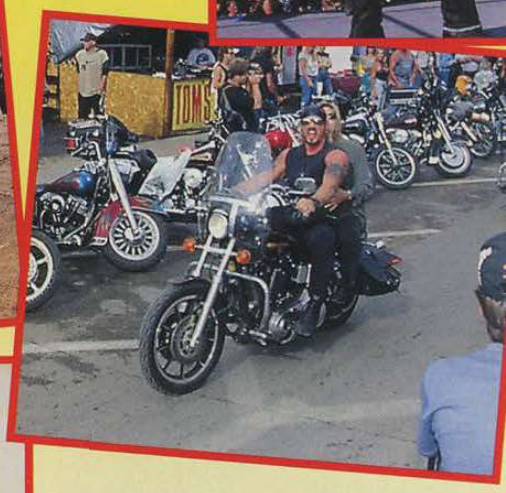
WCW UPdate

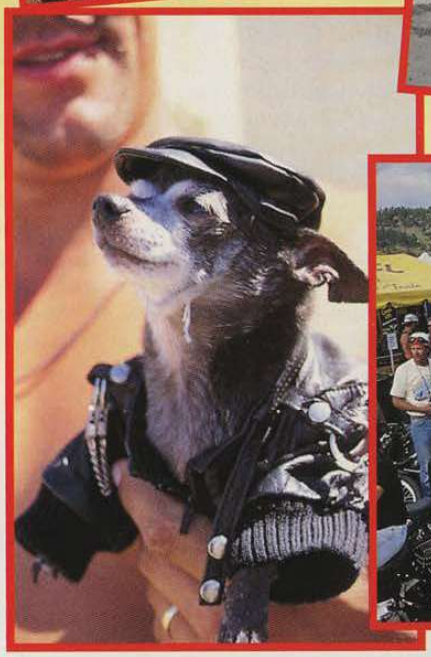
HOG WILD

Out & about in Sturgis









Set in the heart of the Black Hills in South Dakota, near Mount Rushmore is the small town of Sturgis, the mecca for all bikers.

Once a year this relatively quiet place is descended upon by approximately 250,000 motorcyclists from all over the world. They all share one common bond, a love of the iron horse, especially the Harley-Davidson.

This year at the 56th Annual Sturgis Rally & Races, there was a difference. WCW was in town and it was time to run Hog Wild.

And what a time was had by bikers and WCW wrestlers all.

In view of the threat to WCW from the NWO, WCW's Harley owners banded together as a group to travel across the USA on their bikes.

Sting, Madusa, The Steiner Brothers, Paul Orndorff, Vice President of Business Nick Lambros were joined by Big Bubba, Diamond Dallas Page and Steve & Debra McMichael to form the nucleus of the convoy.

As they pulled onto Main Street, Sturgis on Friday after 4 days on the road, they were greeted with rousing applause from their fellow bikers as they headed over to the arena.

From there they dispersed to go about their own business, the bond had only lasted the length of the journey. Big Bubba headed off to join the rest of The Dungeon. Dallas Page could no longer stand "roughing it." While Steve and Debra McMichael had to head off to Deadwood to style and profile with the other Horsemen.

Sting and Madusa made several personal appearances to sign autographs and Madusa made a great impression when she turned up to look over the Harley Davidson show in Rapid City.

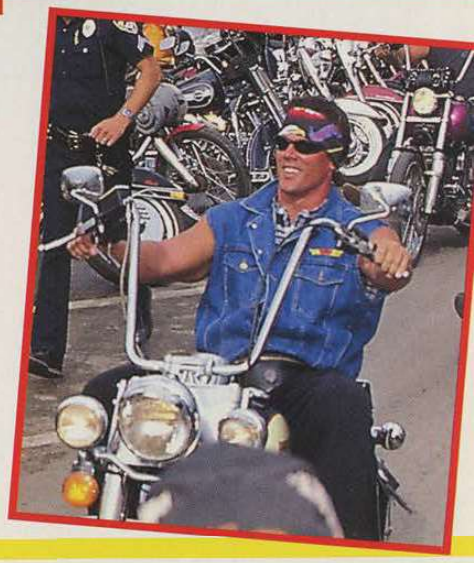
On the day of Hog Wild, The Giant showed up on the biggest custom Harley at the show, drawing envious glances from everyone in attendance.

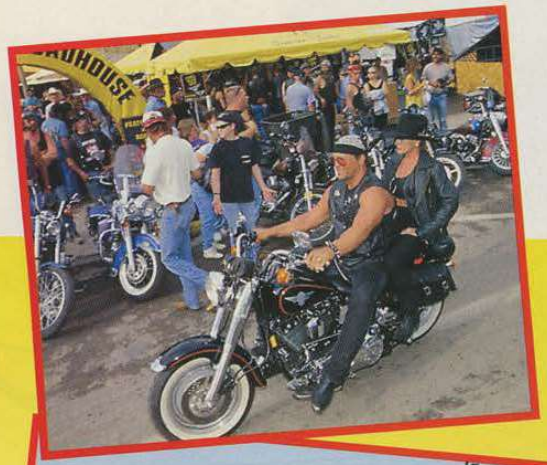
The fans had started gathering at ringside early in the day, and in a unique twist they overcame the fact that there were no seats by parking their motorcycles all around the ringside area. By the time the show started there were so many thousands of people in attendance that nobody could give an accurate count anymore.

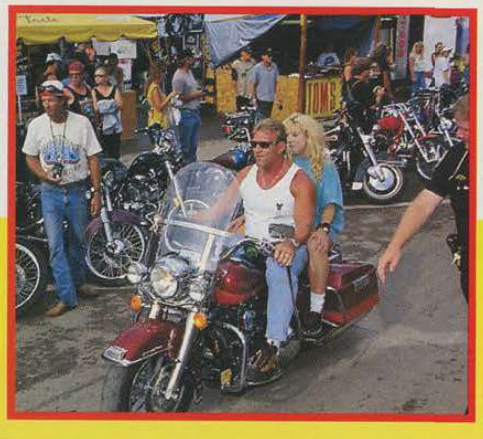
Throughout the show, these knights of the road, showed their pleasure by firing up the bikes and revving them up. It was the most amazing thing that this reporter had ever witnessed.

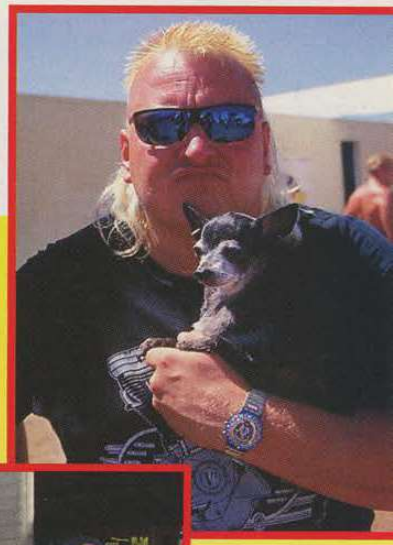
After the five hour event, which had been deemed a huge success, it was decided that Hog Wild would be an annual event and will once again take place during Rally time, next year between August 4 - 10, 1997.

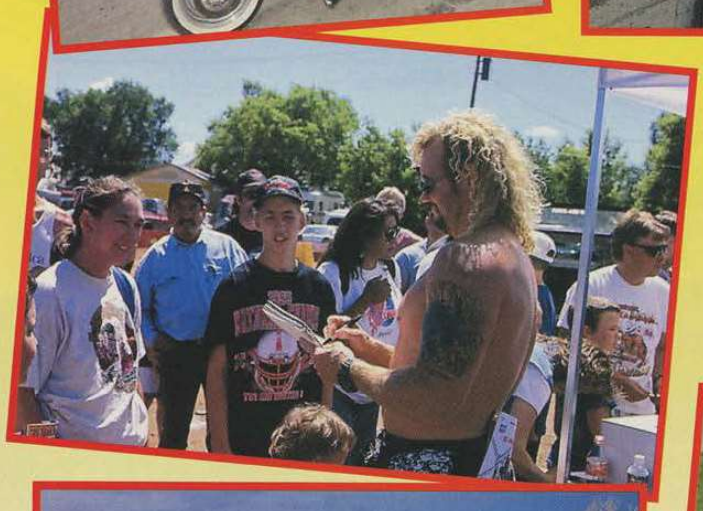
Keep your eyes open as the WCW Chapter of bikers may come riding through your town.

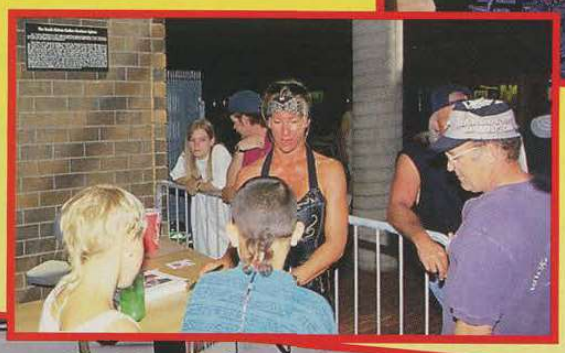












Title CHANGES

It's an old adage, but on any given night, any wrestler can win a title. That's exactly what happened not once, but twice during WCW's recent tour of Ohio.

On July 24th 1996, in The Riverfront Coliseum in Cincinnati, Rick & Scott Steiner overcame Harlem Heat to begin their 4th reign as WCW World Tag Team Champions.

However, they did not have much time to savor the moment as on the following Saturday in Dayton, Harlem Heat secured their places in WCW's Tag Team Hall of Fame when they regained the titles and began a record breaking 6th reign as Champions.

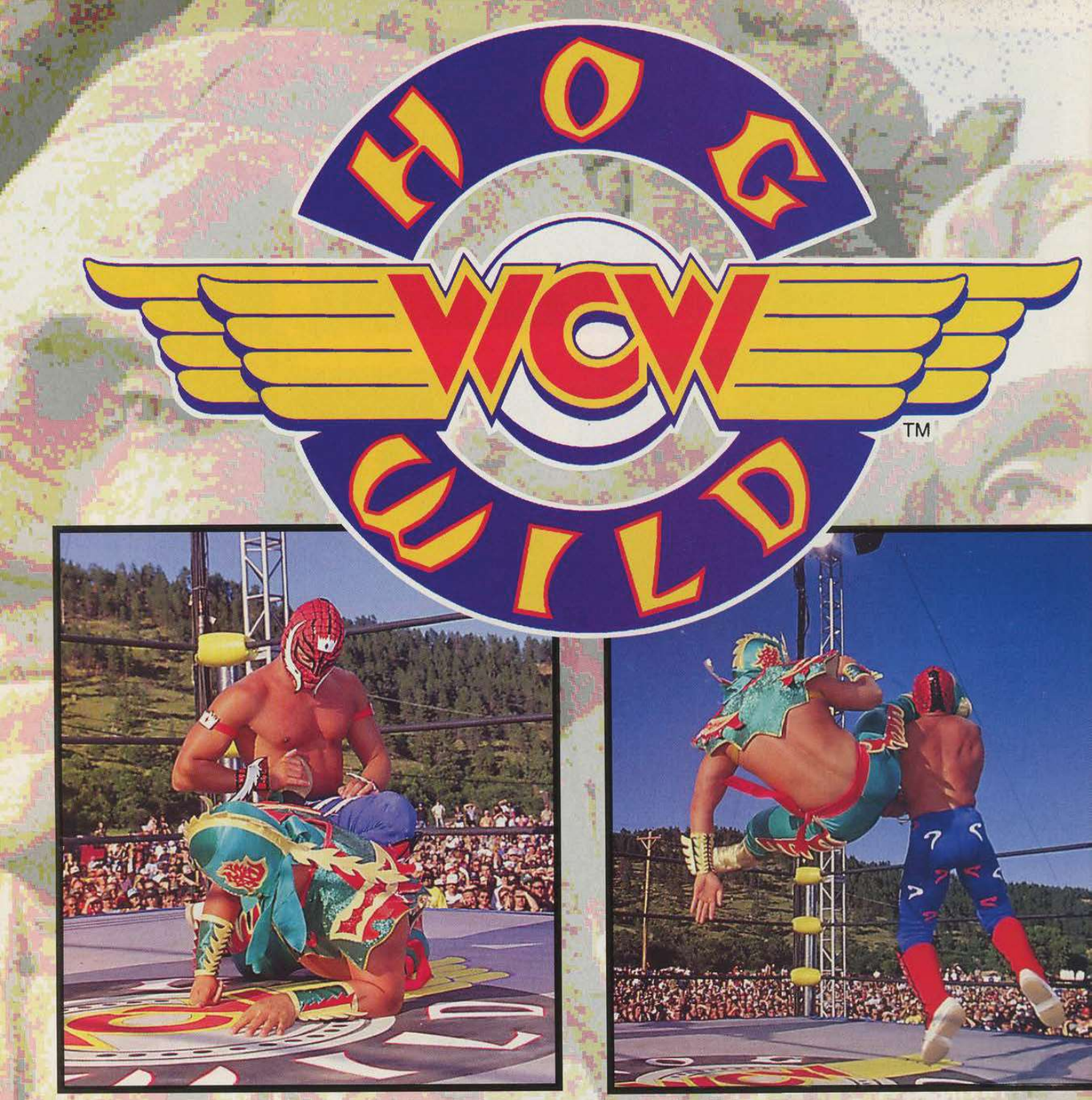
GERMANY CALLING

Negotiations are taking place at press-time for WCW to return to Germany for a ten day tour in December. We will publish the dates and venues in next month's issue.

WCW EVENT NEWS

Here are the dates of WCW's upcoming major events:

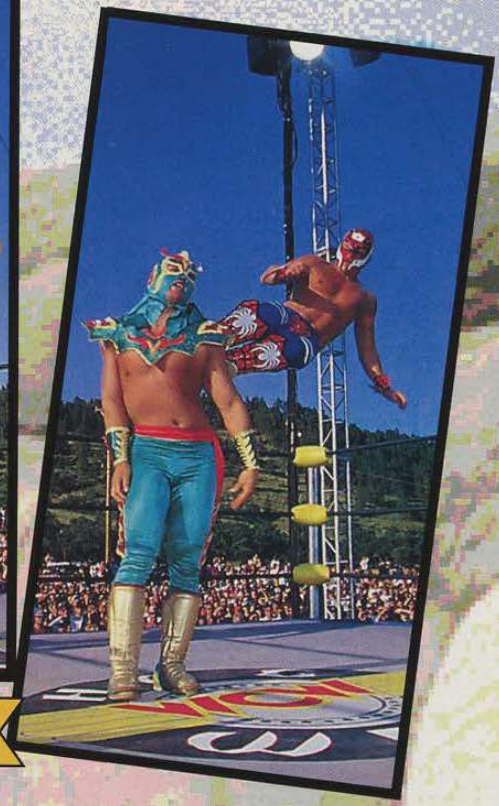
September 15, 1996 **Fall Brawl**
October 27, 1996 **Halloween Havoc**
November 24, 1996 **World War 3**
December 29, 1996 **Starrcade**



Consider the past 18 months. A live Monday 2 hour wrestling show EVERY week. A live pay-per-view ON the beach. A three-ring, 60 man battle royal. A three storey, quadruple cage match. Intra-federation match-ups.

In a period when innovation has been the keyword surrounding WCW, it came as no surprise when it was announced that the newest WCW pay-per-view, Hog Wild, would be broadcast live from the 56th Annual Sturgis Rally & Races in South Dakota.

This great event would provide the spectacular setting for the most important night in the history of World Championship Wrestling. A night when the very survival of the promotion would be at stake.



WCW CRUISERWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

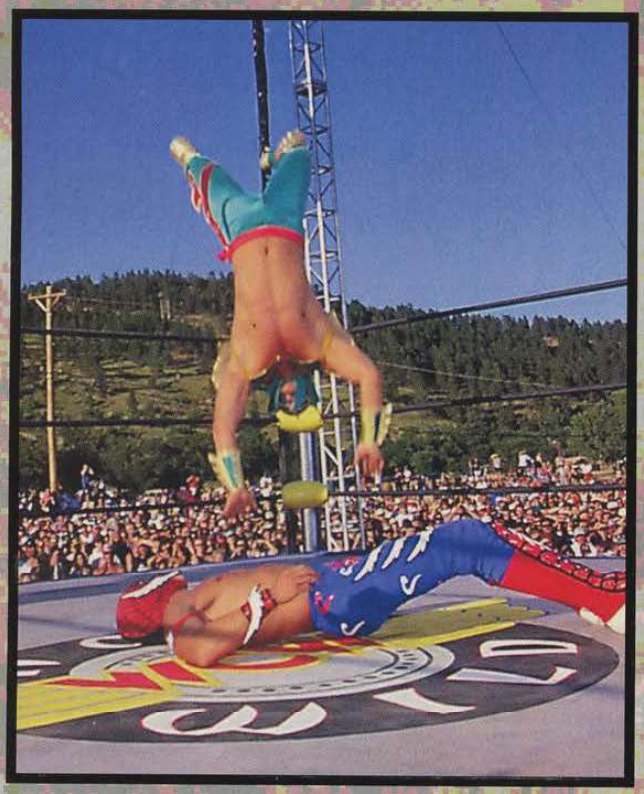
REY MYSTERIO, JR. VS ULTIMO DRAGON

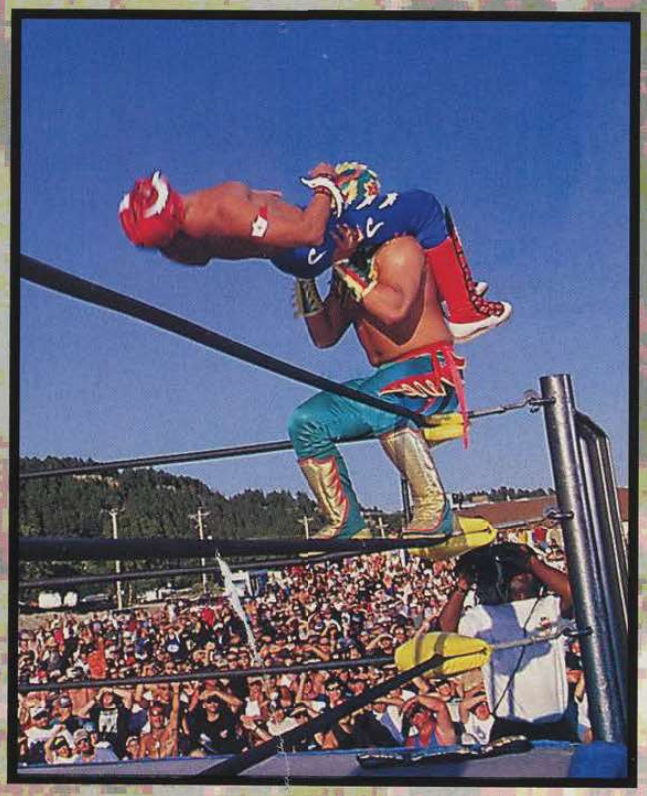
Is there a braver wrestler in WCW than the Cruiserweight Champion, Rey Mysterio Jr.? Despite his size disadvantage Mysterio defends the title night after night with the tenacity of a pitbull. This time his opponent was one of New Japan's shining young stars and former IWGP Jr. Heavyweight Champion, the masked Ultimo Dragon.

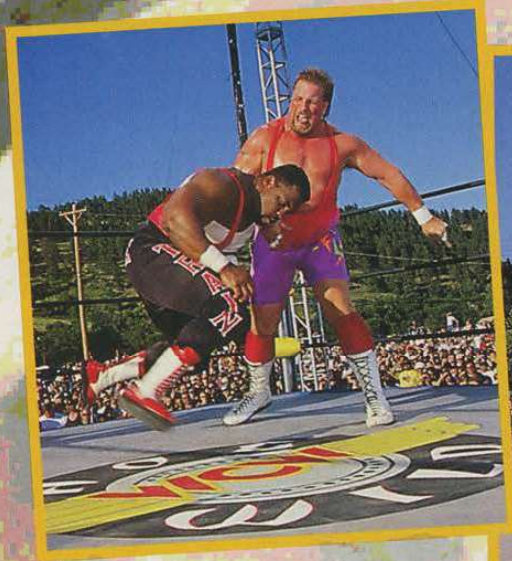
Dragon overwhelmed Mysterio in the early part of the match, with a bewildering range of maneuvers including, spinkicks, moonsaults, a handspring elbow and a devastating airplane spin into a backbreaker.

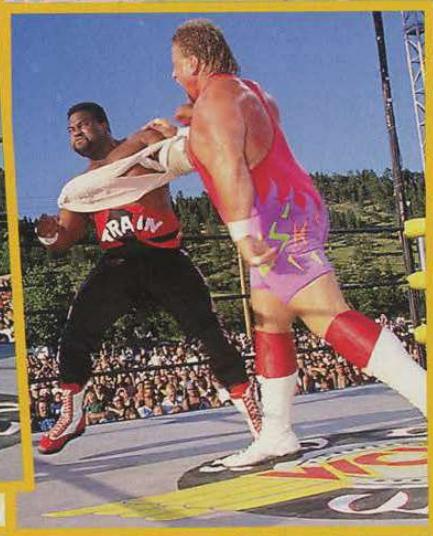
Slowly Mysterio began to gain the measure of his opponent, and after he had failed with one attempt at the top-rope Frankensteiner he came straight back with another with which he was able to score the pin.

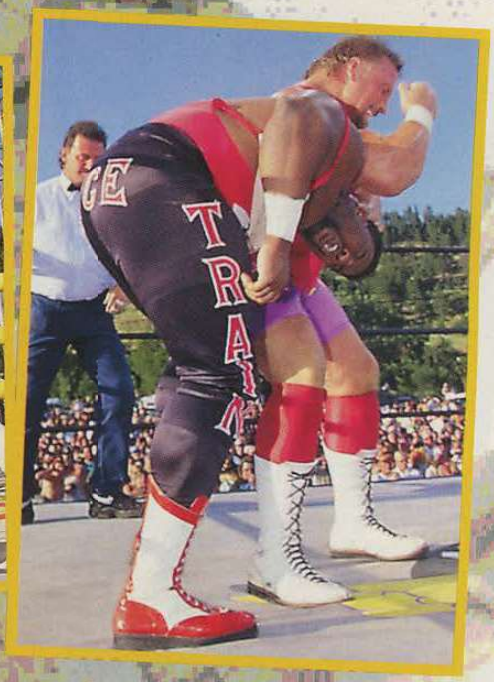
RESULT: Mysterio retains the Cruiserweight title in 12:03

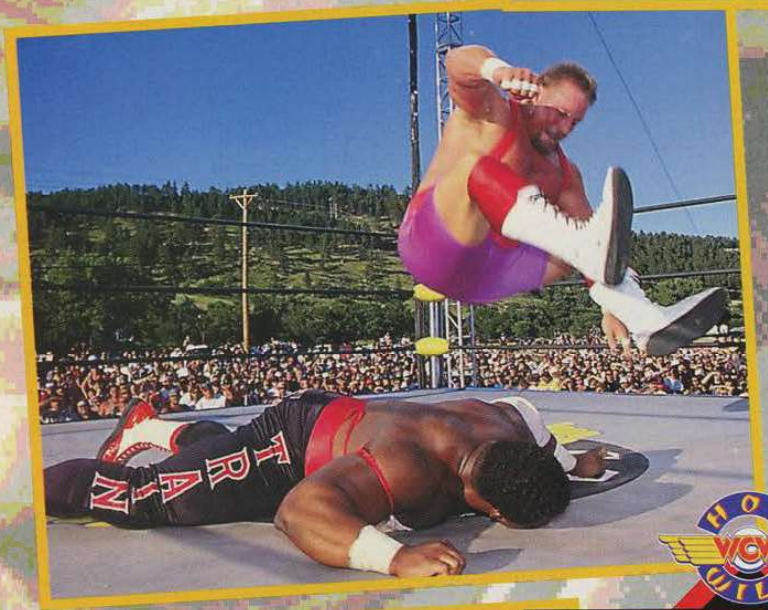












Nobody can understand the reason why these two great athletes split up. Sure they had their differences, but so does any good team. The step up to greatness is achieved when you can work the problems out.

Ice Train was hampered by an shoulder injury suffered at the hands of The Giant earlier, on WCW Saturday Night, but he still came out to face Norton.

Any thoughts that the pair of them would put aside their differences were quickly dispelled as Norton went straight to work on Ice's weakened wing.

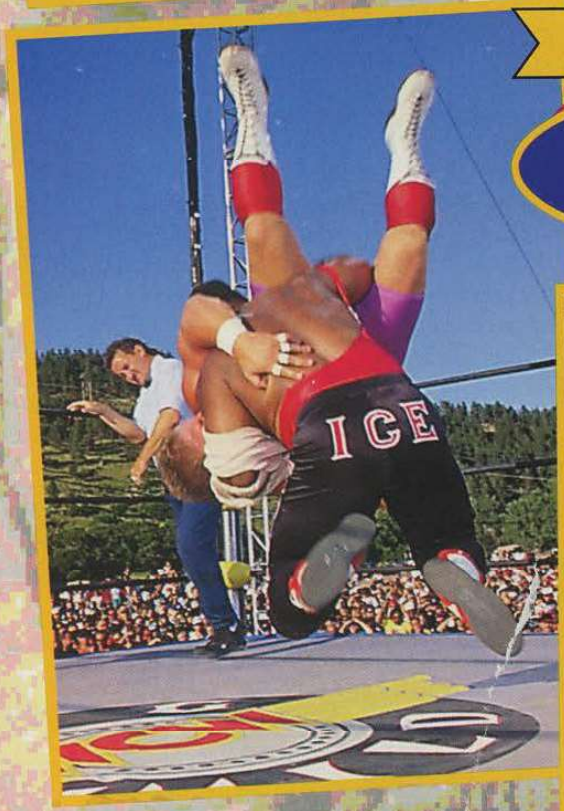
Despite a brief and spirited comeback by Train, Norton was always in control and when he locked on the reverse armbar, the referee had no choice other than to stop the match and save the brave Ice Train from permanent damage.

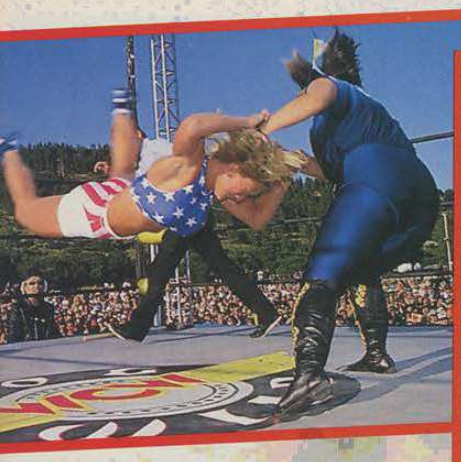
RESULT: Scott Norton wins when the referee stops the match in 5:08 after Ice Train refuses to submit to the armbar.

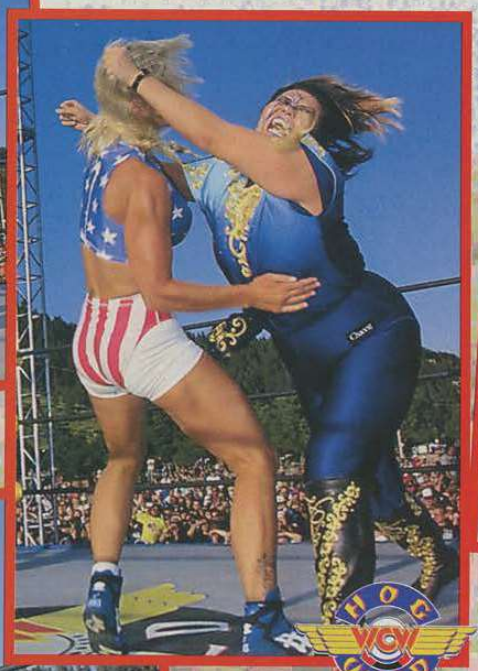
HOG WILD

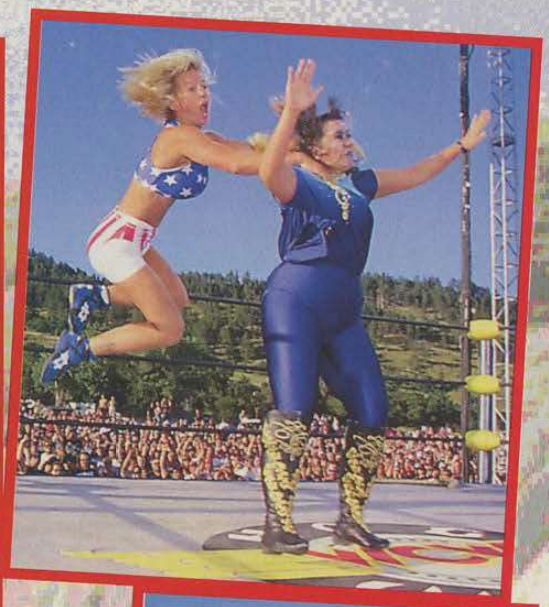
FORMER TAG TEAM PARTNERS FEUD

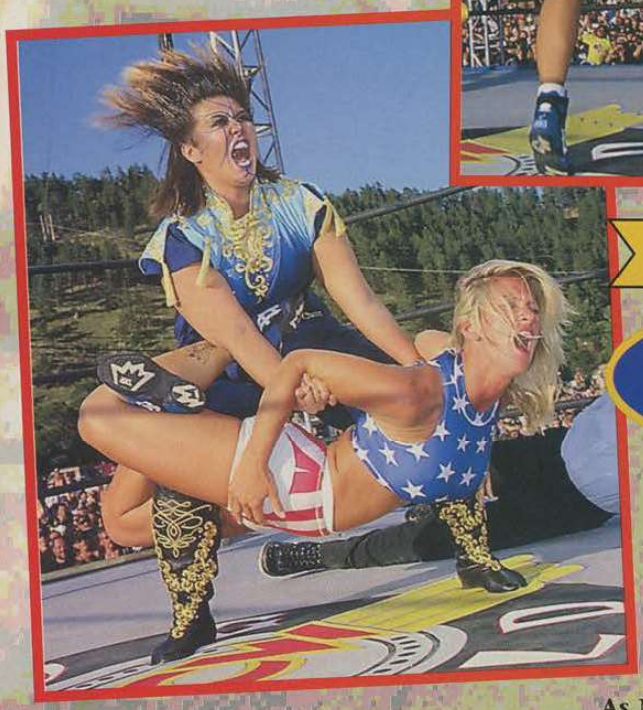
SCOTT NORTON VS ICE TRAIN











BATTLE OF THE BIKES

MADUSA
VS
BULL NAKANO
Winner gets to destroy the other's motorcycle

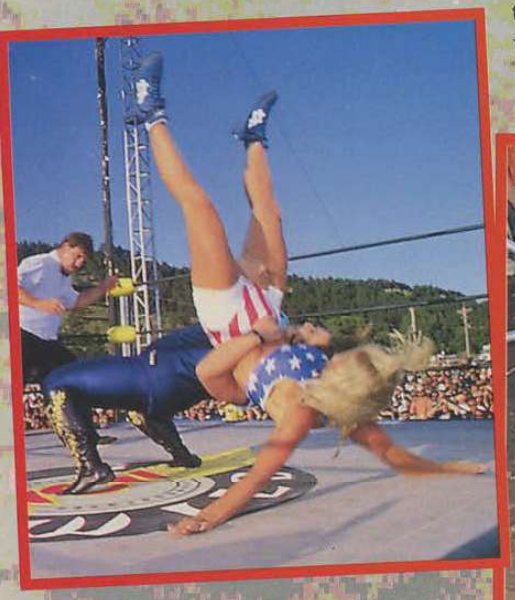
There is no love lost between these two women and the added stipulation added that little bit of extra spice.

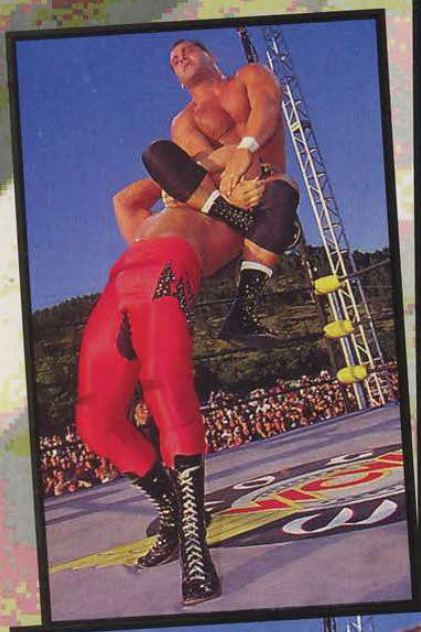
As Madusa rode to the ring on her pink Harley, the crowd erupted and it seemed that this ovation had distracted Madusa. She was quickly brought down to earth when Bull viciously attacked her, throwing her across the ring by her hair.

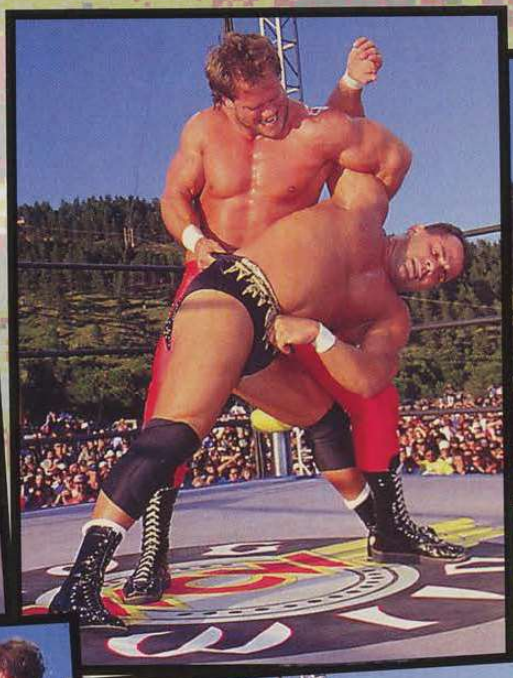
The powerful Nakano with the devious Oono outside the ring appeared to have the match won with a textbook German Suplex, only for the referee to rule that Madusa had raised her shoulder at the three-count, while Nakano had hers firmly on the mat.

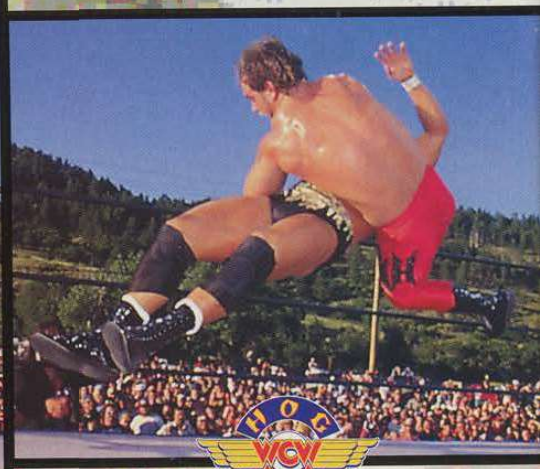
Oono hadn't heard the decision and attempted to smash Madusa's Harley with a sledgehammer, but was thwarted when she attacked him. With Oono out of the way, and much to the delight of the partisan crowd, Madusa trashed the Honda.

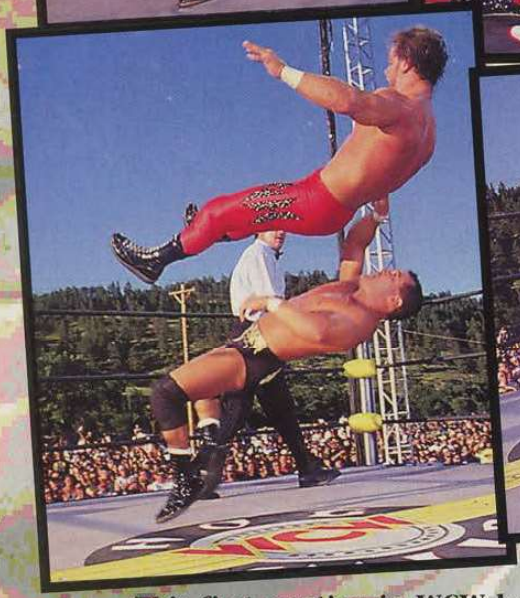
RESULT: Madusa won, when she raised her shoulder at the three count in 5:02

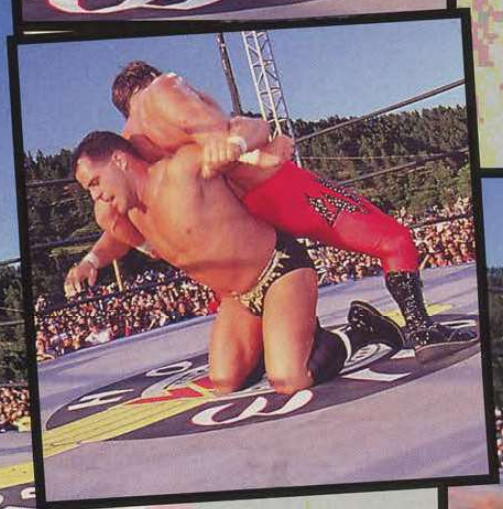


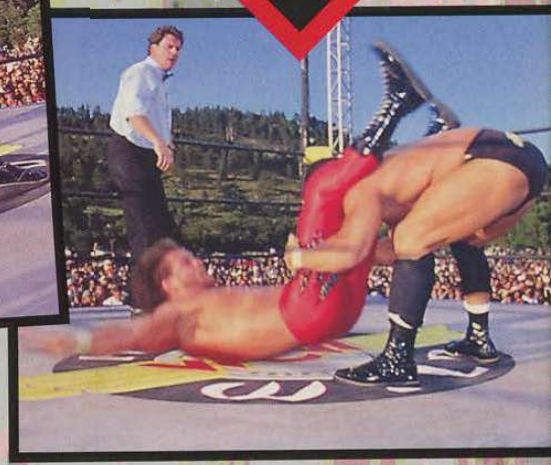












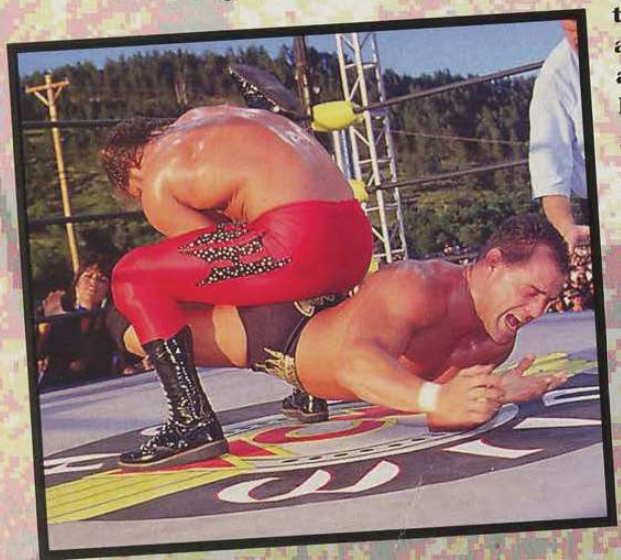
CHRIS BENOIT VS DEAN MALENKO

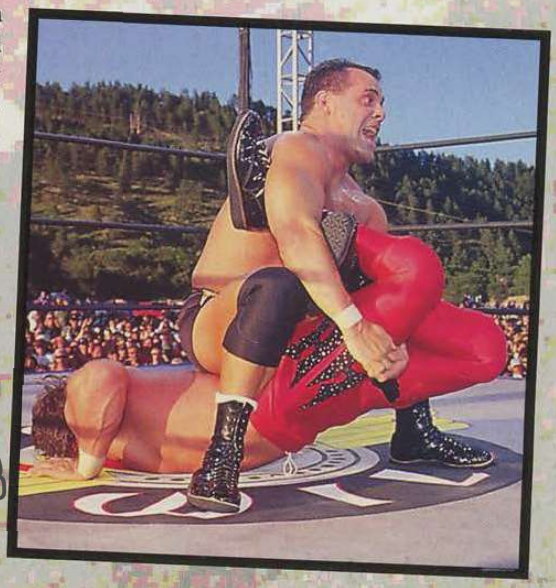
This first meeting in WCW between these two superstars was an unforgettable affair. Benoit accompanied by Woman and Elizabeth displayed all the intensity and style expected from a Horseman, while Malenko exhibited the full range of the skills that make him the unsurpassed wrestling master in WCW.

After a 20-minute period where there was nothing between them, although Malenko did finish with a two-count, the referee announced that there had to be a winner and ordered a five minute overtime period. This time Malenko slightly shaded it, but was again denied victory, following a powerbomb, when the time limit expired.

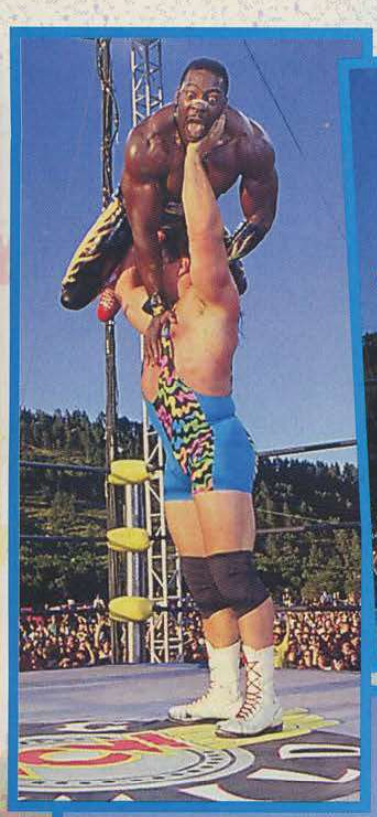
A second period of overtime began and Benoit began like a tiger, suplexing Malenko. Dean fought back and got Benoit into the Texas Cloverleaf. Woman then took a hand and after causing a distraction, helped Benoit gain the win with a cradle and a handful of tights.

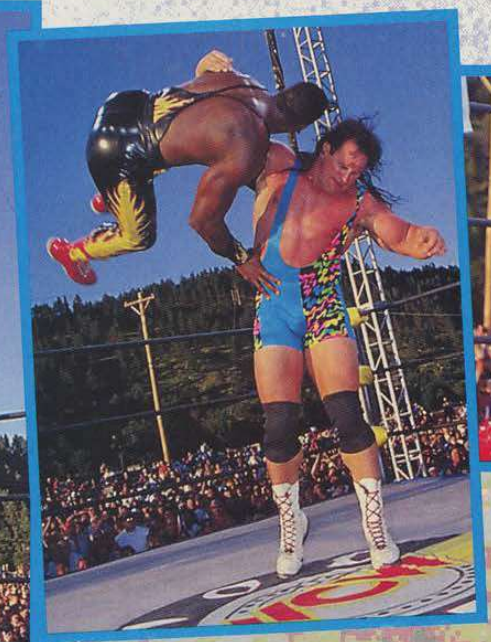
RESULT: Benoit wins in 27:00

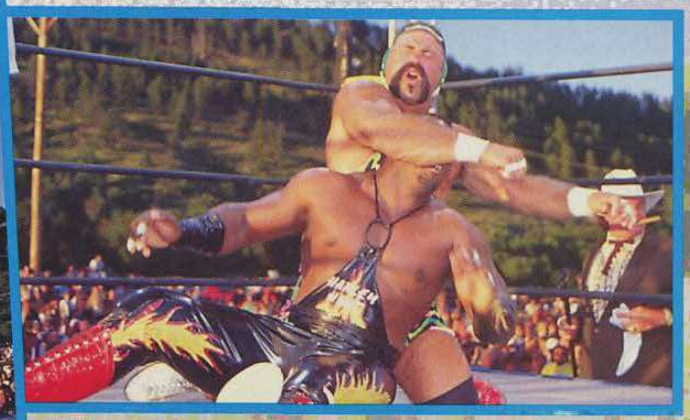




RINGTHEBELL on Archive.org







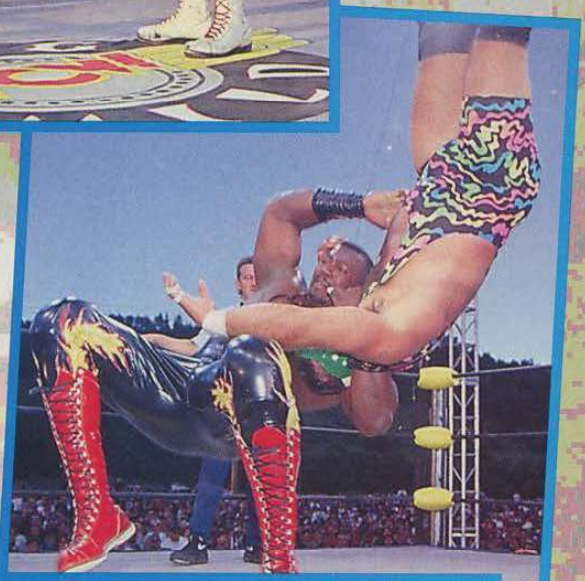
One can feel the frustration mounting as The Steiner Brothers are continually denied in their efforts to regain the Tag Team title by the shenanigans of Sherri and the Colonel.

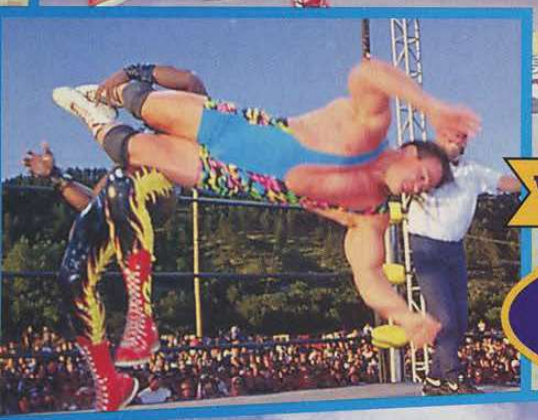
This match was no exception. The Steiners with the support of the crowd behind them, battered Harlem Heat with clotheslines and suplexes in an attempt to get the quick win.

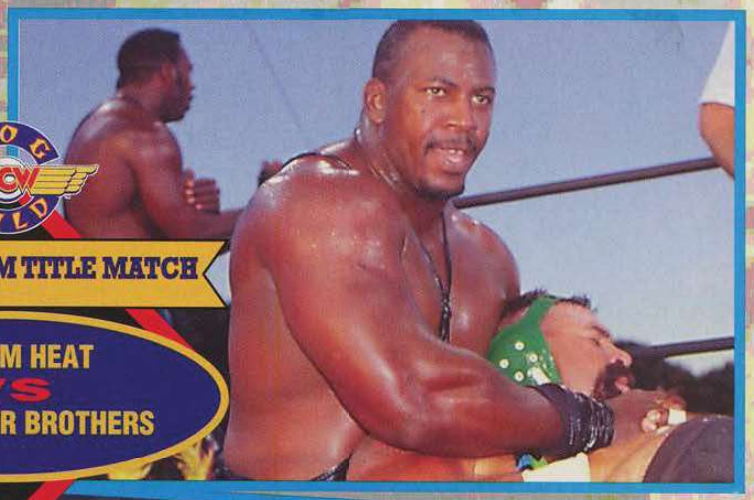
Harlem Heat continually used their ring savvy to defuse the situation when it got too hot, using time wasting and stalling tactics to throw The Steiners off of their game plan.

As the heat began to take it's toll, Colonel Parker and Sherri, both stepped up on the ring apron. The Colonel attempted to throw powder in Scott Steiner's eyes, but failed hitting Booker T instead. Fortunately for Harlem Heat, Sherri also had powder she threw into Scott's eyes enabling the Colonel to redeem himself and hit Scott with his cane. It was just a formality for Booker T to pin him and so retain the title.

RESULT: Harlem Heat retain the World Tag Team Championship in 17:57 when Booker T pinned Scott Steiner

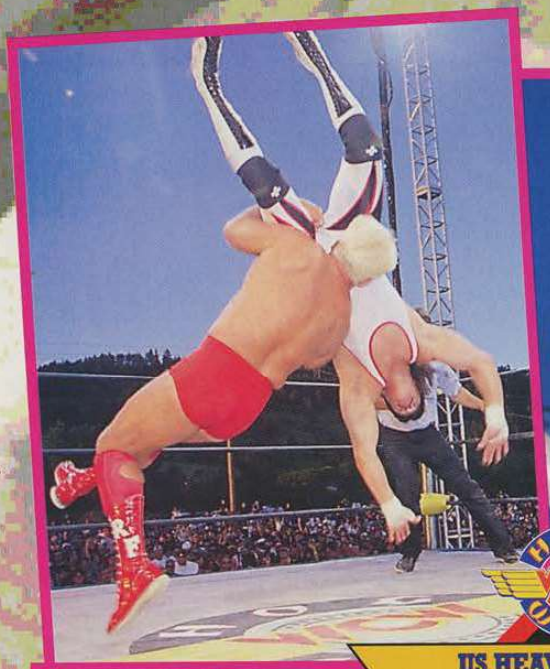


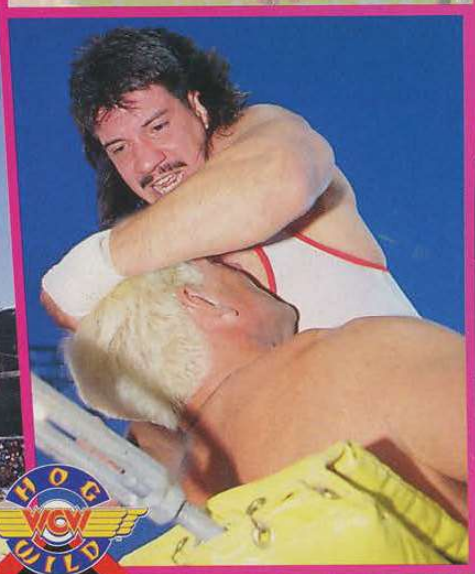


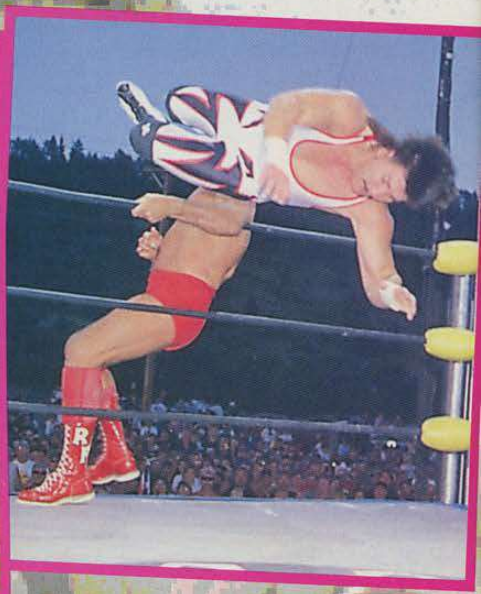


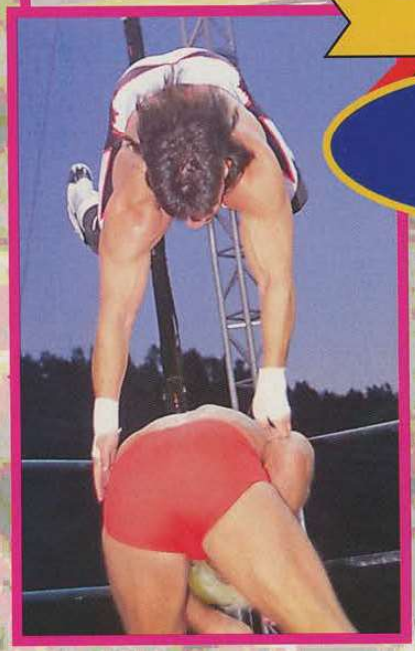
WCW TAG TEAM TITLE MATCH

HARLEM HEAT
VS
THE STEINER BROTHERS









US HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE MATCH

RIC FLAIR VS EDDIE GUERRERO

It surely won't be too much longer before one of the WCW titles is won by Eddie Guerrero.

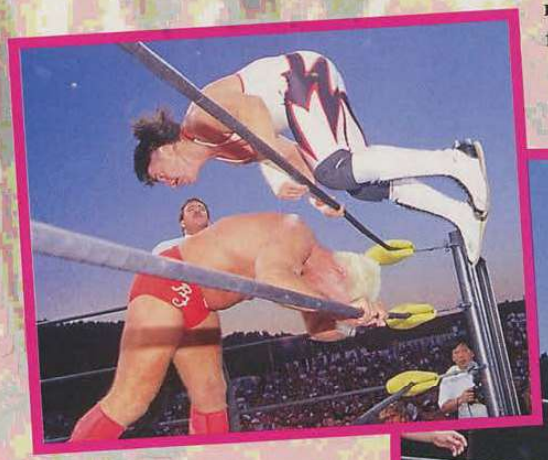
The high-flying, Texas native attacked Flair from the get-go, chopping him and then rocking him with a crossbody block. Flair, who is a notorious slow starter, used all of his experience to keep his shoulders off of the mat and began to mount his own offense.

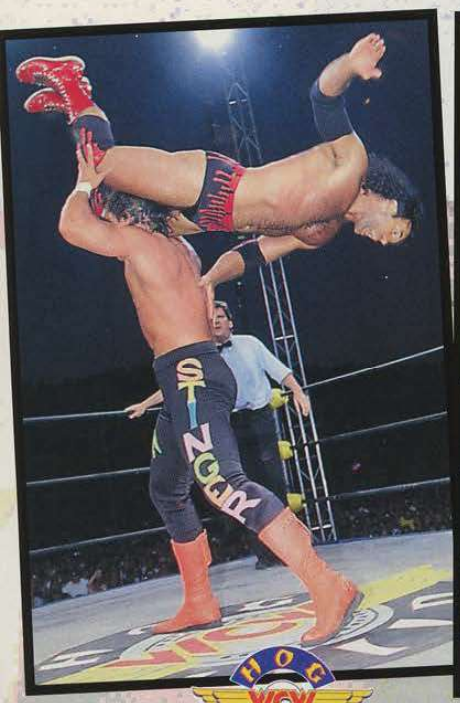
However when Eddie caught Flair with a flying DDT, it looked like Guerrero's moment had arrived, but once again Flair kicked out.

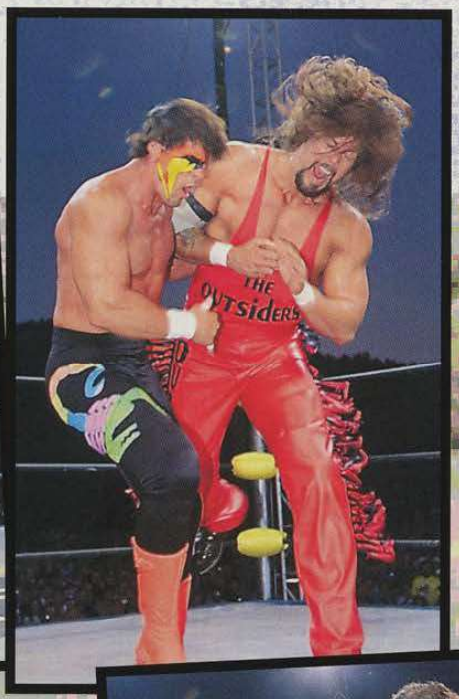
Then as has happened so many times in the past, Flair capitilized on the mistake of an opponent to place the figure four leg lock on them.

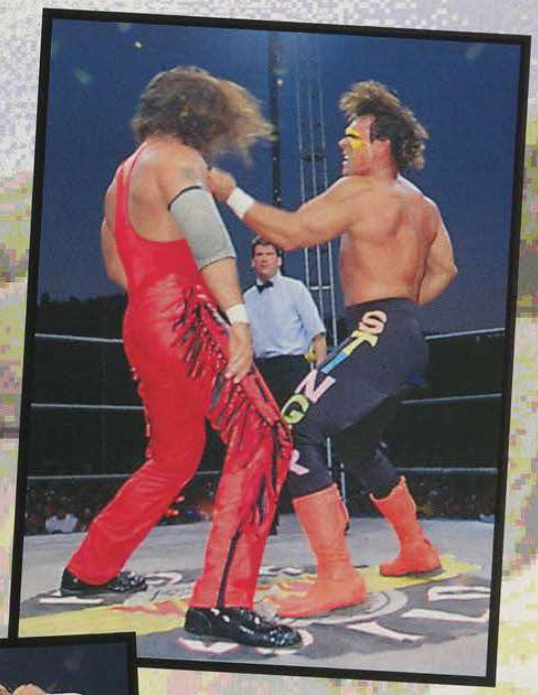
As Guerrero fought the pain, Woman grabbed on to Flair's wrists to give him the leverage necessary to gain a victory via a figure four pinfall.

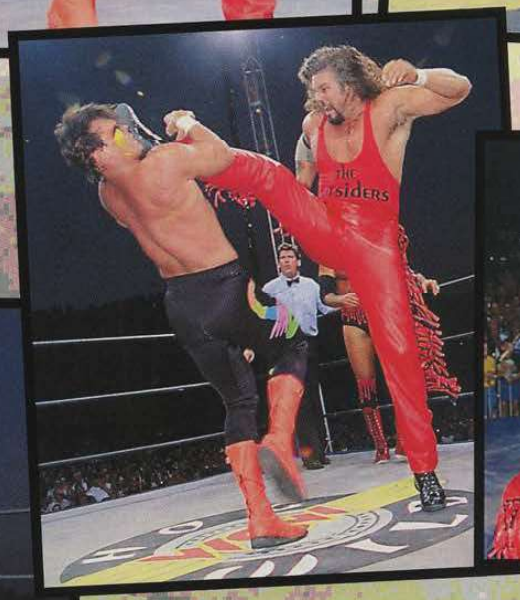
RESULT: Flair by pinfall via figure four when Guerrero could fight back the pain no longer in 14:19 to retain the US Heavyweight title

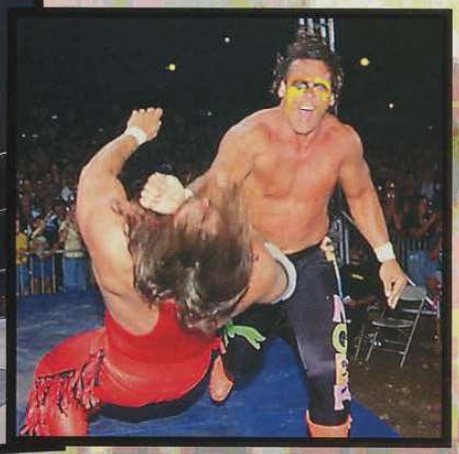






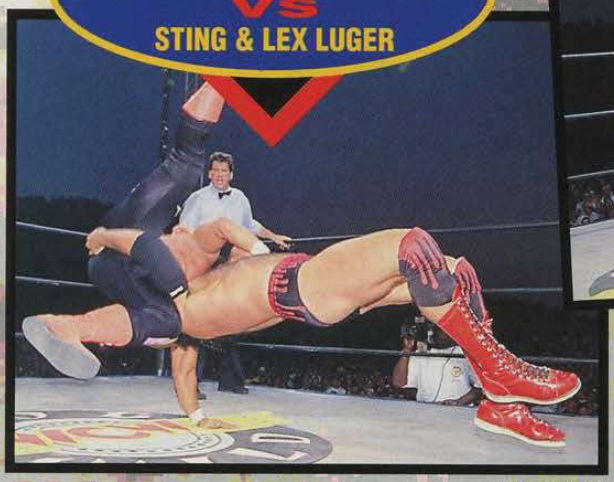






THE RETURN OF THE OUTSIDERS

THE OUTSIDERS (SCOTT HALL & KEVIN NASH) VS STING & LEX LUGER



If The Outsiders have a major flaw in their arsenal it is overconfidence and a lack of respect for their opponents. After all this was Sting and Lex Luger they were facing, not a young inexperienced team like High Voltage, and they were nearly made to pay dearly.

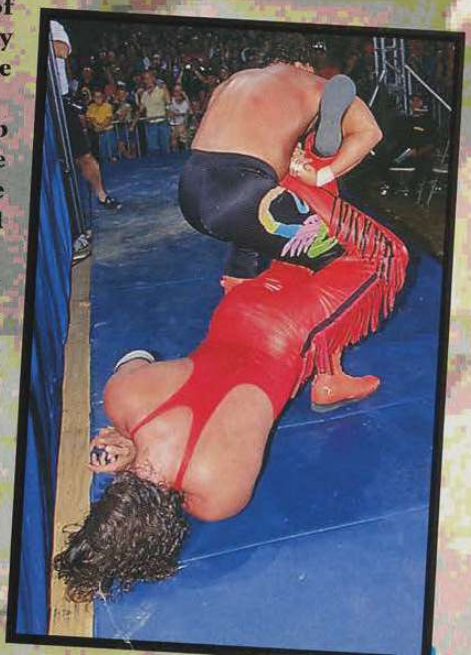
After being controlled for most of the match, Sting and Lex finally fought their way back to dominate The Outsiders.

Following a clothesline over the top rope, Sting put Nash into the figure four leglock outside the ring, while Lex who was the legal man battled with Scott Hall inside.

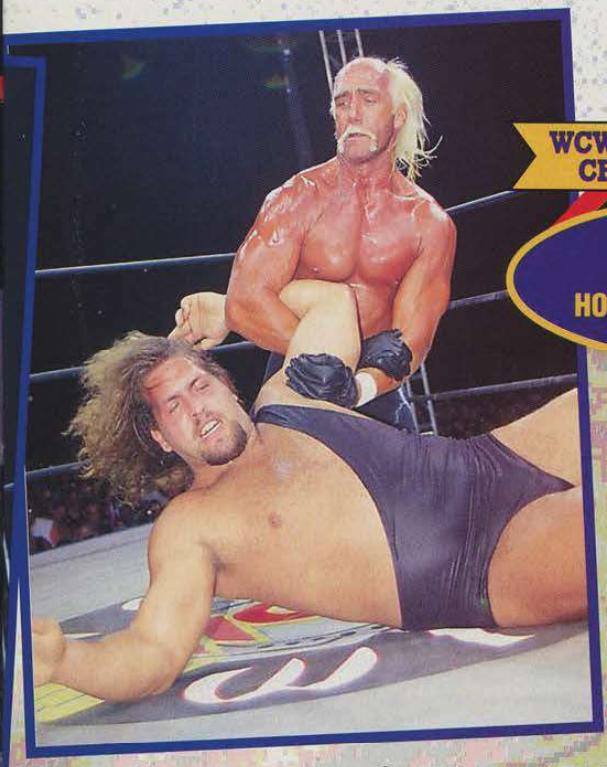
With Hall sufficiently weakened, Lex attempted to hook him up into the torture rack but hit referee Patrick who stumbled and then appeared to deliberately knock Lex's leg from underneath him, allowing Hall to gain the pinfall following an incredibly quick three-count.

Is Nick Patrick now a member of the NWO?

RESULT: Scott Hall pinned Lex Luger in 14:35

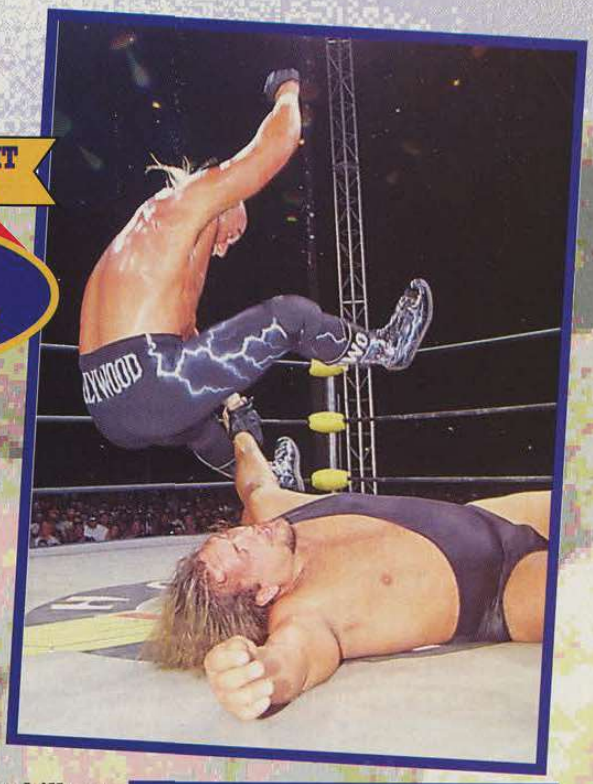


RINGTHEBELL77
on
Archive.org



WCW WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

THE GIANT VS HOLLYWOOD HULK HOGAN



It was a sight fans from all over the world thought they would never see ... Hulk Hogan entering the ring as a rulebreaker.

As the match began it was obvious that Hogan's sabbatical away from the ring had done nothing to erode his skills as he matched The Giant every step of the way, even winning a test of strength.

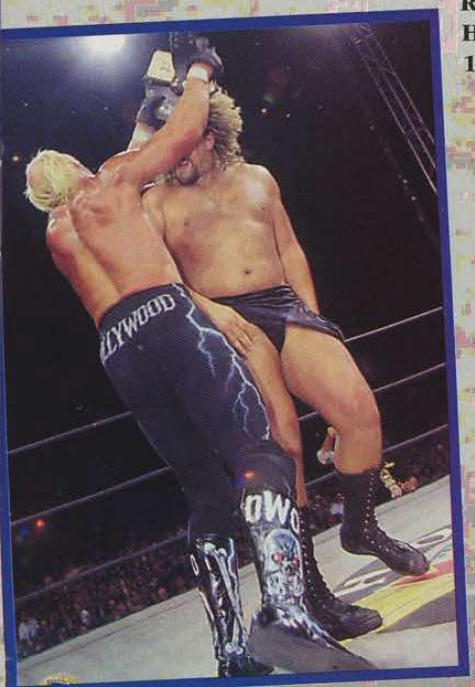
The match changed direction when The Giant caught Hogan with a low kick and then a back breaker, but once again Hogan fought back, unloading lefts and rights on The Giant.

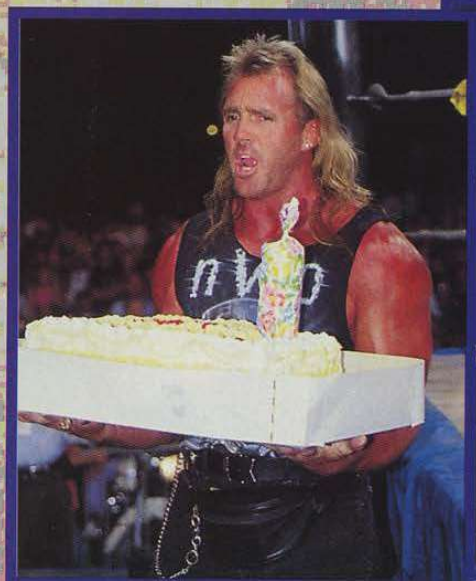
Then came the shock. With The Giant on his knees, he suddenly stopped feeling Hogan's punches and in a page straight from Hogan's text book, he shook his head clear and pointed THE point that said, no more. He delivered several chops to Hogan's chest and threw him into the ropes meeting him perfectly on the rebound with a boot to the face. Scott Hall and Kevin Nash then ran out, preventing The Giant from delivering the inevitable chokeslam to Hogan. With The Giant distracted and delivering chokeslams to both Hall and Nash, Hogan grabbed the belt and used it to knock out The Giant and gain the win and the title.

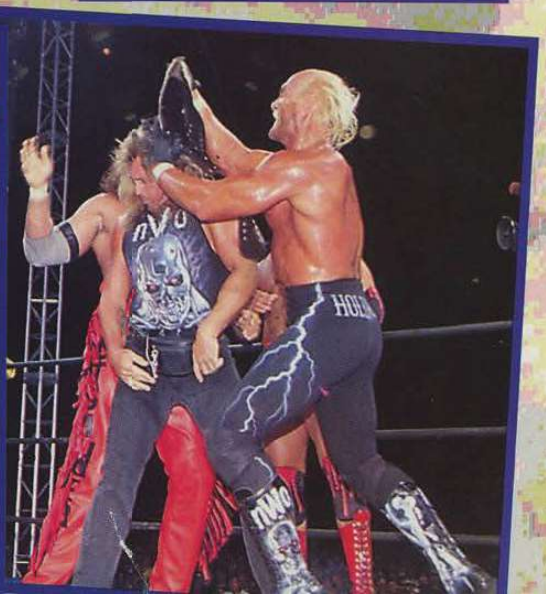
As the NWO celebrated in the ring, The Booty Man came down to ringside with a birthday cake and present for Hogan and asked to join the NWO. Hogan told Booty he is his best friend, kisses his cheeks and told him business is business as he and The Outsiders destroyed him.

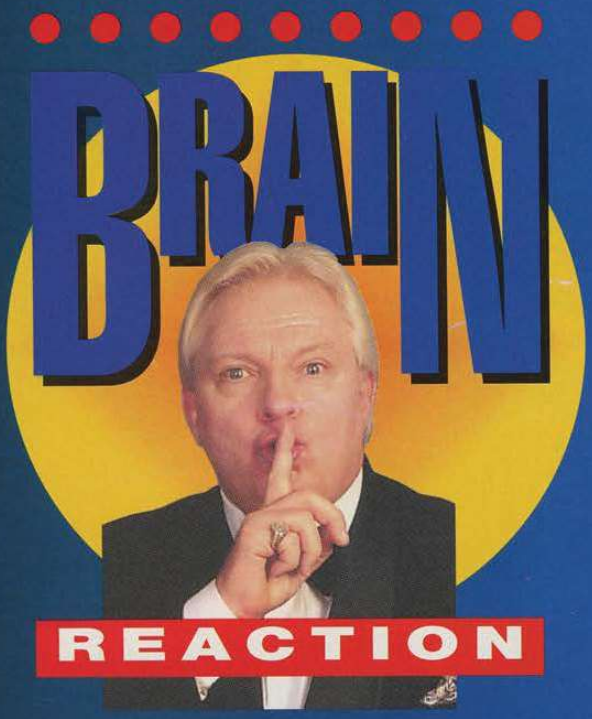
Hogan then sprayed the initials NWO onto the Championship belt as the final act of desecration, that may have signaled the end of the road for WCW.

RESULT: Hollywood Hogan wins the WCW Heavyweight Championship by pinfall in 14:55 and declares himself, NWO Champion.









Bobby "The Brain" Heenan is the co-host of WCW Monday Nitro Live on TNT. He also serves as color commentator on WCW Clash and PPV broadcasts.
All the views expressed are his and his alone!

I'm disgusted. I'm nauseated. I'm sick, sickened and satiated. And this has nothing to do with Dusty Rhodes' butchering of the English language. Nope, it's The Hulkster once again. Hulk Hogan, the trash that he is, is once more on top of this great sport, as much as I hate to admit it. I walk through airports, check in and out of five-star hotels and eat dinner at any restaurant in America ... and you humanoids always want to talk with me about Hogan. You say, How could he turn his back on the Hulkamaniacs? How could he dump the fans and his loyal following in WCW and join Scott Hall and Kevin Nash in the New World Order? Well, the answer is elementary, much like your highest education level: Hogan has never really cared about you, and obviously never will. Sure, he played the game as if he cared, as if he had a concern for your health and well-being. But, in reality, he'd say one thing to you, then turn his back and laugh at you. Maybe it was the way you look, or the way you dress or even just the way you sound, Hogan has had fun at your expense for over 15 years. And the thought that it's taken you humanoids this long to see the true Hulk Hogan when I've been telling you about the real Hogan for how many years now? — is all your fault. Hogan is scum. Always was scum. Always will be scum.

Enough about that zero, now on to other important topics ...

This is my 20th column for WCW Magazine and, well, I don't know if there will be a 21st. It seems the dim-witted editor of WCW Magazine, Colin Bowman, has something against beauty. Of course, that means yours truly. Have I been on the cover of any of the first 20 issues? Nope? Has Sting? Three times. Has Hogan? Twice. Has "Macho Man" Randy Savage? Once. Even The Steiner Sisters (Rick and Scott) and The Nasty Boys have covers to their credit. But not "The Brain." Things had better change or Bowman will be less a columnist, and possibly an appendage as well.

And talking about affronts to my dignity, what was that in the last issue. Mean Gene Okerlund, a celebration of 25 Glorious Years. Pah! Don't make me laugh. I'm the only broadcast-journalist in the whole of this sport who should be having a tribute written about him. After all if there had of been any Hall of Fame inductions this year, I would have been a cert. The closest Gene will ever get to the Hall of Fame, will be when I allow him to shine my plaque.

Did you notice "Mr. Polyester," Tony Schiavone, is no longer a WCW Magazine columnist? I can understand how you missed his departure.

Sister Sherri scares me. So I guess that does make her "Scary" Sherri. But there's a reason. She wouldn't be kissing Dick Slater if she didn't like him, or at least if she wasn't attracted to his tag team partner "Mauler" Mike Enos. But with Col. Robert Parker in the picture, she could be a bigamist ... except in Rhode Island where it's acceptable. Then again, I hear she's attracted to Stevie Ray of Harlem Heat. And Booker T and Sherri have been seen cuddling. I'll know more about this love octagon by next month ... hopefully.

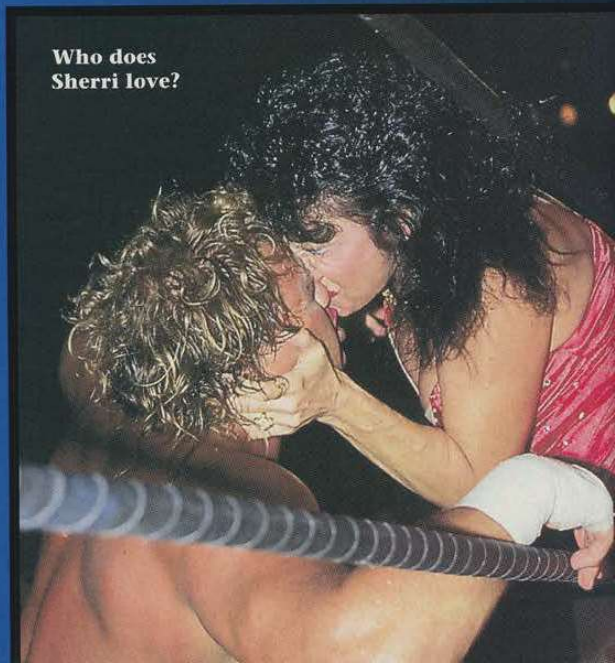
Who's older: Ricky Morton, Robert Gibson or Brian Wilson?

Rey Mysterio, Jr., can't get into the commissary at Disney/MGM Studio where WCW wrestlers and park employees eat. There's a statue of everyone's favorite rodent, Mickey Mouse, at the entrance, and it says, You must be over 4-feet to enter. Sorry, Rey ... you better bring tacos from home, or run for the border. And if you get there, STAY!

With Maxx serving as Jimmy Hart's personal bodyguard, the "Mouth of the South" will have more time now to spend other people's money, I mean, search-out new members for the Dungeon of Doom. Jimmy told me that he had been severely hampered in his search due to his fear of a debilitating attack from any number of outside forces. Let's see, there's The Four Horsemen, The New World Order and The Mexican Jumping Beans, the team of Eddie and Chavo Guerrero Jr., Rey Mysterio, Jr., Konan and Psychosis.

Nice name, by the way. Can you picture him at birth, the joy of his mom when she looks at him and says, 'My, what a lovely son ... let's name him Psycho.'

Speaking of psychopaths, there are too many these days in WCW. You've got Savage, the long-time


Who does Sherri love?

Anyone for darts?

reigning king of the socially unacceptable, Brian Knobs, Jerry Sags and Kevin Sullivan. And then you've got Scott Hall and Kevin Nash from the New World Order (NWO). I don't trust those two guys; I never will trust those guys, and, as I've said before, I suggest you don't trust them either. They have come to WCW with one thing in mind: total control at any expense. Do I want to be near them? No way. Do I want to see them? Not at all. Would I consider a financial offer from them for coaching tips? Of course.

It was so nice to see my dear, close, personal, long-time friend Sonny Oono at Hog Wild in Sturgis, S.D. Oono-sahn accompanied Bull Nakano to the ring for her match against Madusa. I personally don't think that was a fair match, by the way, and have advised Oono-sahn accordingly (for a small donation, of course). You see, Madusa is American, Nakano is Japanese and those bikers in attendance are Hick. There's no way Bull Nakano could have gotten a fair shake.

With the baseball season winding down, playoff fever is in the air. And Madusa is offering free sliding tips.

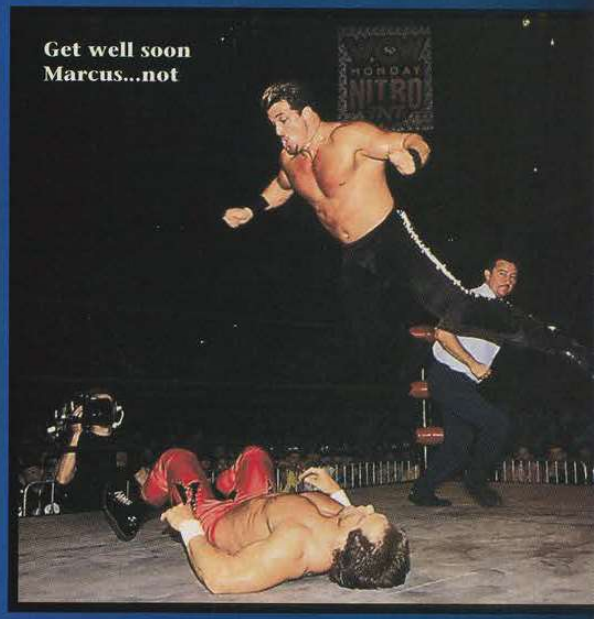
From the "Duh Files," I must report that Madusa stood in an empty parking lot in the worker's area of Disney/MGM Studios on the first Saturday in August for about three hours. There wasn't a car in sight and not a body within miles. She was by herself. Why she was there, I had to wonder. Then my pal Woody told me what she was doing. It appears Madusa was trying to pull a quick one; she was trying to switch some of the parking stalls for WCW executives. At first I thought it was a funny prank. Hey, everyone would laugh if she moved Eric Bischoff's parking sign to the end of the row, down by, say, "Hardwork" Bobby Walker. Instead, I learned Madusa moved the yellow paint off the ground — not the signs. Smart girl that Madusa.

Anyone up for some darts ... I saw Rey Mysterio walking around a little bit ago.

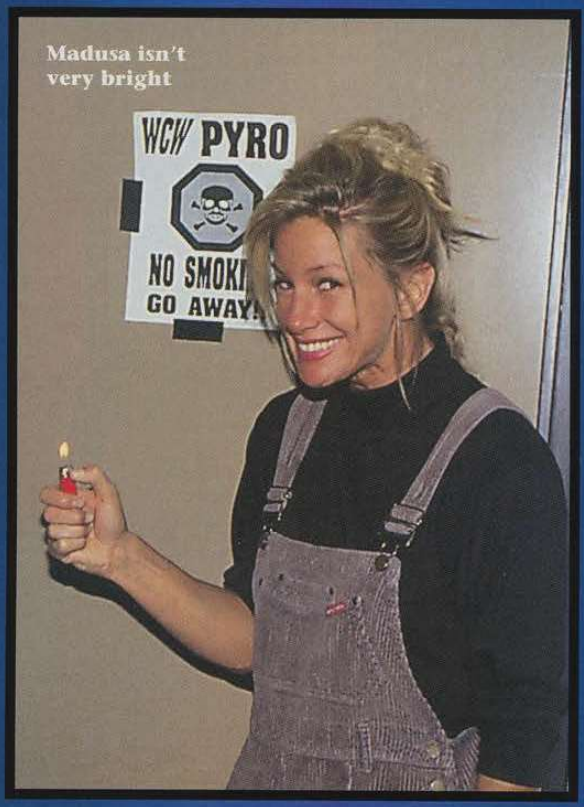
As I was walking away from the Monday Nitro telecast on July 29th, the day of the Backstage Carnage, I spotted a lady, and I use that term loosely, sitting along the aisle with bleached blonde hair, and something that caught my eye: a tattoo. I didn't stop, but had to go back and further examine what I had just seen. So, I changed shirts, threw on a baseball hat and sunglasses, then sneaked out. I spotted WCW's Public Relations Manager Alan Sharp standing next to this lady and used him as a shield. I looked at her left outer thigh, which you couldn't miss, if you know what I mean. And there, in full color was the word HULKSTERS. I didn't know why there was an "S" at the end of the word, and didn't bother to ask her. But, I had to know if it was a real tattoo. So I asked. She replied, "Of course!" And you folks thought I was crazy.

When The American Males (Marcus Bagwell and Scotty Riggs) were laid-out by The NWO, it actually was a victory for those two punks. It was the first time Bagwell and Riggs had gone against two foes and not heard a three-count against them. Granted they heard a lot of bells, but no three-count.

Well, humanoids, until we meet again, which hopefully is never.



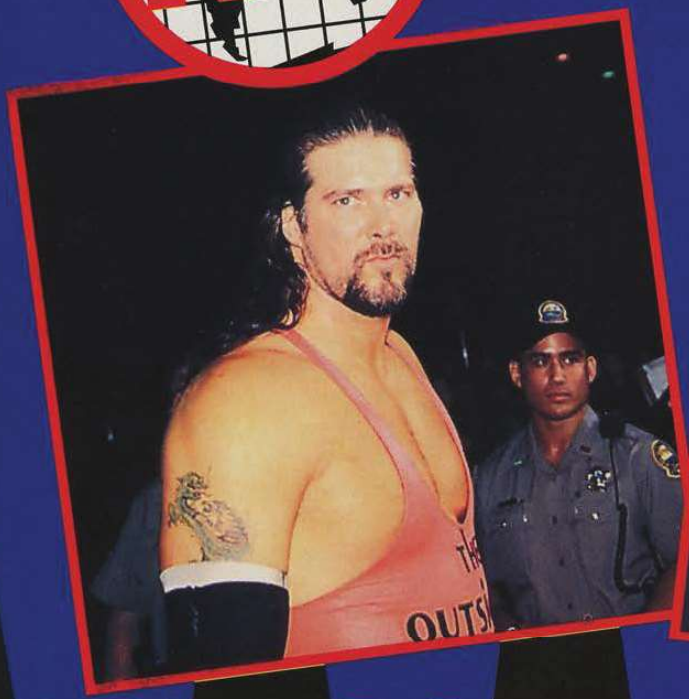
Get well soon Marcus...not

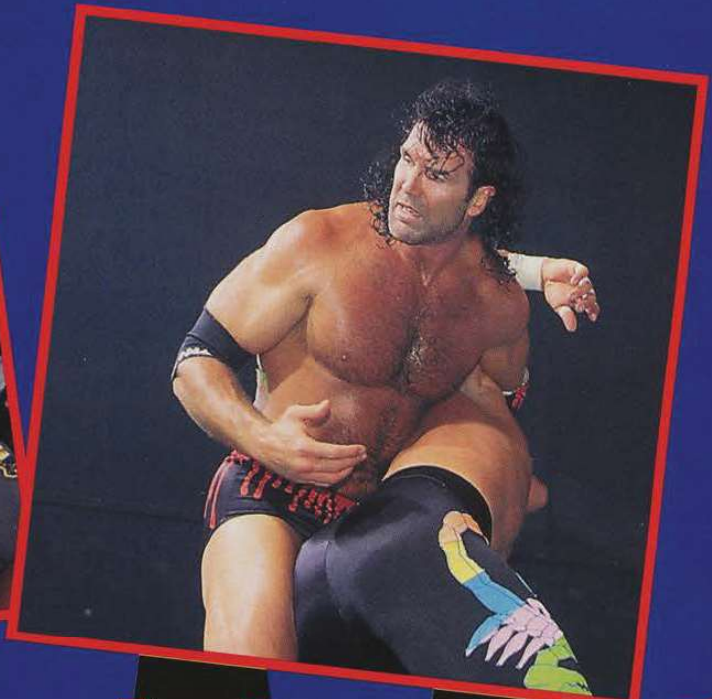


Madusa isn't very bright

A paid advertisement on behalf of the World's Number One Wrestling Organization

NW THE NEW





The blueprint for the future

by "T

It is my pleasure to pen the only column that is sanctioned 100-percent by the New World Order, pro wrestling's driving force. What? You don't think we're bigger than the entire sport? Think again, or we could be taking batting practice on your cranium next. Where's the lumber, or do you prefer a Louisville Slugger?

Allow me to introduce the members of the NWO, a trio of terror that has caused more chaos in Atlanta than anything else to hit that redneck village in years.

Sure, by the time this article hits newsstands worldwide, there will be ... well, let's just say there might be any number of NWO members, but, hey, WCW Magazine like all publications has deadlines. And we will meet them, with whatever info/insider news we want to share.

The lead-off batter is Scott Hall, who's only 6-foot-7. Sure, his height makes it a wee bit tougher for him to dunk a basketball, but we ain't challenging those over-paid cry-babies from the NBA. At least not yet. And if you have even the smallest doubt about Hall's ability, forget it; he's a methodical mauler with a killer instinct.

Next up: The Big Man, Kevin Nash. This 7-foot-1 monster enjoys inflicting pain and his threshold is enormous. WCW claims to have The Giant, but, next to Nash, that freak looks like Pee Wee Herman. Nash has more power moves than any member of Harlem Heat (Booker T and Stevie Ray) or either Steiner Brother (Rick and Scott). Come to think of it, Nash knows more than all four of those goofs.

Last, but certainly not least: Hulk Hogan. The Immortal Hulk Hogan. The man who made pro wrestling what it is today.

Just look at the facts. Hulk Hogan is a Sports Illustrated cover-boy and, that issue with Hogan's mug was the second-highest seller of the magazine for the entire year, only behind the annual swimsuit issue. And, remember, Hogan's competition for SI covers came from the "so-called" major sports. Has the Mr. Slim Jim ever been on the cover of any mainstream magazine? Hulk Hogan has been in movies and television shows galore — and he's been the headliner. Heck, the only time Ric Flair sees The Big Screen is when he pays $7.50.

"We're the kind of guys who like to say, 'We Told You So.' And, ya know, WE TOLD YOU SO," Hall shouted. "We advertised what we were going to do — and we delivered!! We said we were going to make things happen in WCW. We've done that. We said we were going to shake things up in WCW. We've done that. We said we were going to take over WCW. We've done that."

Let's think about ... Hog Wild was a WCW-sponsored pay-per-view. It's an event for WCW to showcase WCW talent. Do you think that happened when the NWO's golden boy captured the World Heavyweight Championship? OK, the event featured some decent matches, like Dean Malenko battling Chris Benoit, which had about 150 holds in the first three minutes. But did those bikers in Sturgis, S.D., or the millions watching on pay-per-view, really care about those lightweights — or did they want to see the NWO?

You know it ... everyone wonders,

WORLD ORDER

and worries, about the NWO.

"If you look at The Founding Fathers of the New World Order, we are three guys who take an aggressive, take-charge approach to everything we do in life. We train hard. We work hard. We play hard," Nash said. "Trying to take over World Championship Wrestling is no easy task, or so we thought. It has, in reality, been much easier than we thought. I thought they'd put up a tougher fight."

"WCW is not 'That Big Building in Downtown Atlanta.' It's not CNN Center, nor is it the ring trucks or TV equipment that you see when you watch a Monday Nitro telecast. WCW is made up of all the wrestlers, all of the announcers, all of the crew, all of the staff ... the humans who seem to drive this monster of a company to make it what it is. We know that, so, to take the company, we've got to take the people. We either take them out or take them in. It's simple, but it's not easy, at least we didn't think it was going to be easy. You either fight with us or you fight against us."

Added Nash, "This is the happiest time in my life, and I've had a lot of happy times; I've been blessed in that I've had a great life. For years, I worked for other guys and, sure, along the way I enjoyed a lot of success. I've made a lot of other people quite rich in the process ... now I'm doing it all for me, and my friends of course. We're doing things now for ourselves; no one else!"

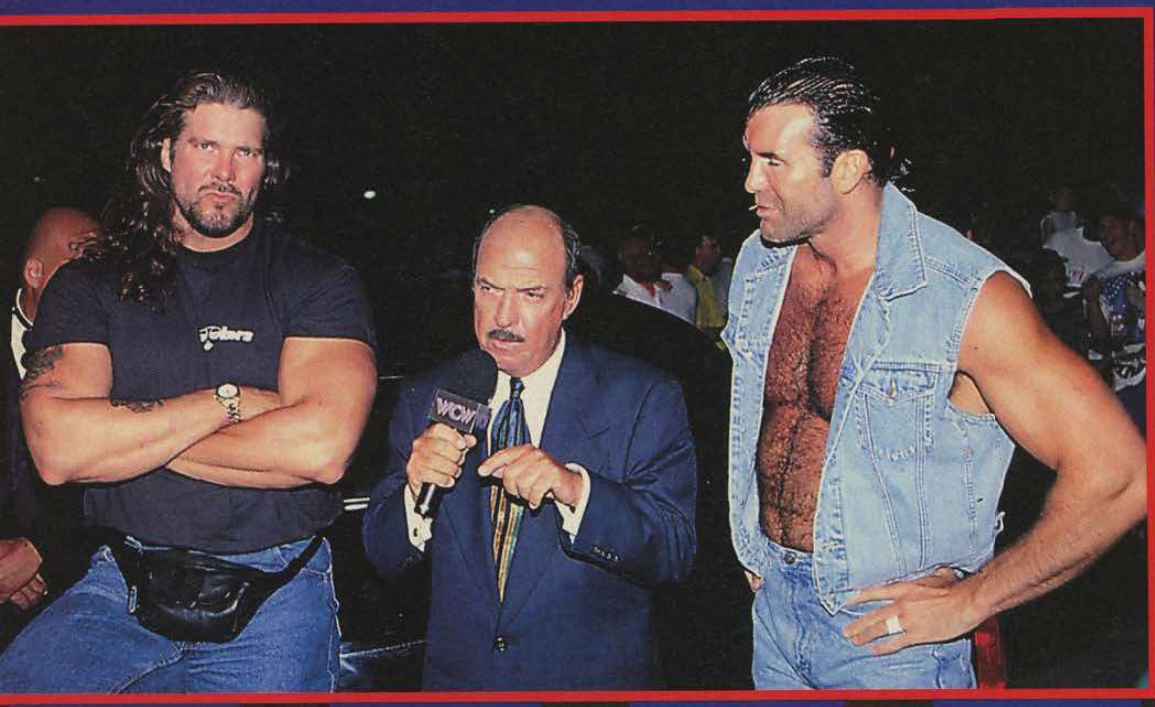
Yeah, the NWO is a bunch of bullies. They know it. I know it. We all know it. They are the new-age outlaws. They're thugs, gangsters, hoodlums. They're also the bad boys on the block.

"Whatever you want to call us, that's fine with us. Just don't call us late for any WCW parties — because we will be the party-crashers," Hall said. "WCW is a strong, viable company; we know that and that's why we picked them to take over. They promised us a war ... well, we're wondering if they can even give us a good fight. It's funny, who's the WCW tough guy? Rey Mysterio, Jr. That pip-squeak jumped Kevin on Nitro and, well, ya know, he made a pretty good dart. Too bad his head left a seven-inch dent on that trailer. To me, that was like the punk third-grader attacking the stud high school quarterback. Not a chance."

"I hope all of the WCW wrestlers know that this is all business to us; it's not personal, other than with a few guys like Sting, Lex Luger and 'Macho Man' Randy Savage because they chose to make it personal. We have an agenda; we're out to accomplish our goals and anyone — and that does mean anyone, in any position at World Championship Wrestling — who wants to get in our way to try to stop us, go ahead. Bring it on."

Added Nash, "People always ask, 'Is Michael Jordan the greatest basketball player of all-time?' And there always are those who side with others, like Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Magic Johnson or Wilt Chamberlain. Does anyone with a clue mention Stinger in the same sentence with Hulk Hogan? Not a chance. Hall and I want to be associated with the best ... that's why we're with the Hulkster. And, ya know, we're all having fun, as I think everyone can see. There's nothing more exciting than going out and making your dreams come true. There are people who make things happen, people who watch things happen and people who don't know anything happened at all. Well, I think it's pretty clear that the NWO falls into the first category."

"We're grabbing our piece of the American dream; you can't just sit around and wait for someone to give it to you. You've got to seize the moment, and we've done just that."



The NWO has long-range plans. It has an outline that extends into the 21st Century. And you can bet The NWO won't work by name alone, as The Four Horsemen do. You won't see members come and go as if they were revolving through a turnstile. The NWO will run shot with action. Violence with a passion is their way. Brutality with a flair is their technique.

"I'm a thoroughbred. Kevin is a thoroughbred. Hulk certainly is a thoroughbred. But WCW seems to be filled with a bunch of plough-horses," Hall said. "The Four Horsemen claim to be a machine, but so is the NWO. And we are a fine-tuned machine. The NWO is a Mercedes; WCW is a Hyundai. Hey, we're cooler and better.

Added Nash, "A lot of people can identify with the NWO because a lot of people have jobs, or bosses, who they hate and would love to do what they wanted to do, when they wanted to do it, wherever they wanted. And that's what we do. There are a lot of people throughout America who are sitting at home eating potato chips, watching TV living vicariously through the NWO. Nonetheless, we don't care if the fans cheer us or boo us, just as long as they pay attention to us."

Like the mainstream media has done. After The NWO ran wild in the backstage area of Monday Nitro on the last Monday in July, all three Orlando TV networks phoned Disney/MGM Studio switchboards about the carnage left behind. It's true. And so is the fact that, on August 6, when the Chicago Tribune's (KidNews section) looks to attract additional readers, who is featured? Hulk Hogan. Not Savage, Sting, Luger or Flair.

"Hulk Hogan has made professional wrestling. He has accomplished every goal there is to accomplish in this sport," Hall said. "People talk about Hogan being a role-model ... hey, he's been a role-model for 20 years. He's told you how to raise your kids. You can't criticize someone who tells you to train, say your prayers and take your vitamins. Those are good things for any kid, boy or girl. Now Hulk Hogan is doing something for himself, something he wants to do and people criticize him ... to those people, I say, shut up and raise your own kids! Hulk Hogan will raise his kids. Kevin will raise his kids and I will raise mine."

The NWO is here in WCW to stay. It is not going away. Rather, it's getting bigger, stronger, badder. Who's the next to join The NWO? Who's their next victim? Only time will tell.

"Those coat-and-tie-types at WCW now have to listen to us. We no longer are just a nuisance," Nash said. "We didn't come in to their world on the ground-floor; nope, we came in at the penthouse level."

And you can bet that's where The NWO will stay.

"The Nomad" is an American journalist, hired by The New World Order to report the facts as they are. "The Nomad" is a tireless reporter with bountiful sources worldwide. More than that, "The Nomad" sees eye-to-eye with Scott Hall, Kevin Nash and Hulk Hogan. "The Nomad" trusts them and they trust "The Nomad." The New World Order is the most fearsome force in the universe and, when sitting in front of a computer, "The Nomad" is a most uncontrollable scribe. "The Nomad" is a censor's nightmare.

Kick Wrestle & Roll WITH MADUSA

Truth, dare, double-dare, promise or repeat?

That's what I played with some fans recently at Disney. I almost was chicken to call Dare after the first round, when someone dared me to wrestle The Giant! Luckily he wasn't around. Whew! I remember the game a bit different when I was 12 — the dares were a lot simpler, like, I dare you to KISS the neighborhood geek. Yikes! That's when you'd come close to death and fake an asthma attack just to avoid it.

Now kids have another outlet: fiber optics, computer technology, virtual reality. I have a new computer and spend more time playing games than balancing my check book. Some of my favorite games are Phantasmagora and King's Quest. If I had children of my own, I know I never would get a chance to play. That's why I don't mind letting friend's kids come over and play. It always surprises me how computer-smart kids are. I used to be computer-stupid. I am now a computer-nerd. I think it's so important not to forget the basics: reading, writing and arithmetic. Well, computers do all of this for you. And this is what scares me about our future. A lot of today's kids cannot write, and everyone needs to be able to write. I'm all for a better way of life, improving technology, like, say, having a pay-per-view match on the moon. But never forget the basics.

That's something I always mention to children, especially at charity events or schools. I do this because we all must care about the well-being of the future. When I talk to kids, I tell of my childhood, how to overcome obstacles and "bad" environments. Our children are innocent. Adults are gifted. Children need to be fed positive ideas and have a positive environment to grow and nurture. The bottom line to all of this is, I had a great time at Disney, spending time with children from all walks of life. I wrestle because I love to wrestle, and because I know it puts a smile (and sometimes, sure, even a frown) on kids' faces. It pleases me so much that children (and adults) give so much energy to wrestling. The sport of wrestling is so unique and so bent that you never know what to expect.

That leads to the NWO, the New World Order. What does that really mean? I don't think this "new" federation, or their thought of taking over WCW, is all that smart. The NWO is nothing but a couple of thugs trying to throw their weight around. Wait ... let's talk about their weight. God knows Scott Hall and Kevin Nash could use a few pounds. Ever seen Hall's knobby knees? Or Nash's calves? Pretty funny on a 7-foot bully.

Now the third guy. Wow, I could hardly wait; the build-up was intense. Do Hall and Nash really believe the Hulkster is actually going to lace up a pair of boots and join them in the ring? Who's next into The NWO? When? Gee, I can hardly wait. Is it Madusa? An interesting thought.

Now I've got some "Locker Room Gossip" for you ...

Many have speculated about its meaning, but, one late evening the other day — and I do mean late — several people thought they saw Elizabeth talking to Randy. Hmmm. Makes you think. Her clever ways? Her ditzy trap? Trying to get her own identity?

Hog Wild. Rating: PG-13 ... that's all I'm going to say right now. I'll write about it at length next month. I want to have all of my details together. Man, what an experience! Did I kick @$$ or what!? Gotta love it!

LORD Steven Regal? Did you know the "Lord" is a title he purchased. Yes, sir, it is. He's a fake. I've noticed in his column within WCW Magazine that he often has a few brash things to say about me, but, I'm a worldly woman ... I understand men! All kinds of men: single, married, gay, young and old. For Steven Regal to feel anything close to superior to a woman in this business, well, look out! My guess, Steven has had a bad life, consequently, he feels the urge to be brash to women.

I've got a little more to say about Steven ... About eight years ago in Germany, Steven and I would train together, each wrestle our matches, then talk shop. He was a nice guy ... what the hell has happened? He's a great wrestler with a sense of humor to die for ... but filled with poisoned Blue Blood. Personally, I think if you continue to walk stiff, your nose will start to bleed. Hmmm, Lady Madusa. Sounds nice.

Next month will be exciting! I'll talk about Hog Wild. Maybe show you some cool pics from the Sturgis Rally.

I also took some pics with world-famous fashion photographer, Andrew Eccles. Boy did we take some great pics! One of the photos is called "The Coppertone Shot." Figure that one out.

Here's a closing thought for the month:

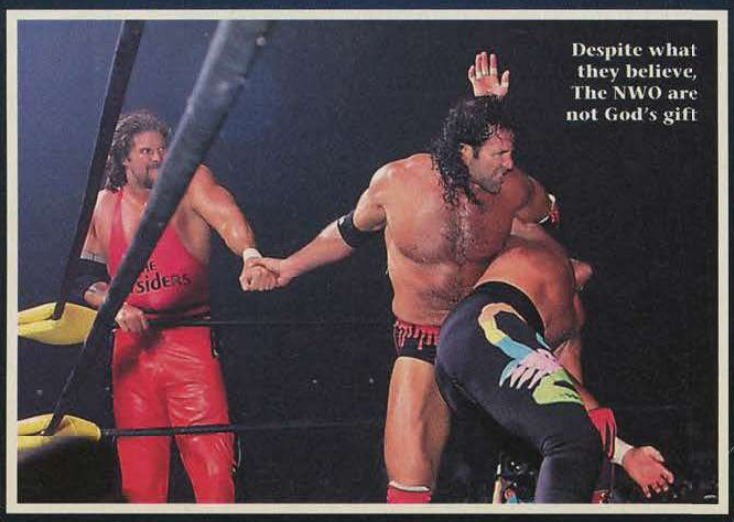
One cannot learn compassion from those who rage.

One cannot learn to nurture from those who destroy.

One cannot learn love from those who value only power!

Lots of Hugs,

Madusa.



Despite what they believe, The NWO are not God's gift

Sitting by his Florida pool is a "Macho Man" Randy Savage unseen to WCW television viewers. It is a relaxed Savage, a subdued, mellow, average citizen of sorts who seems to be saving his energy. Not the rampaging wreck-loose that puts Rambo to shame.

"I'm just going after Hogan; that's all that matters right now. And I don't care if any titles are at stake," said Savage, tapping his glass of ice water as if he was counting the moments until a one-on-one encounter with Hogan.

"It's not a professional thing with Hogan anymore. Nope. It's personal. Very personal. He and I go back a long way, over 10 years, and the world has witnessed our ups and downs."

"Well, Hogan's luck is coming to an end."

Savage and Hogan — formerly known as The Mega Powers and, unquestionably, the most popular wrestlers of the modern era — appear destined to crash head-on at Halloween Havoc 1996, set for Oct. 27, at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. It's a pay-per-view extravaganza sponsored by Slim Jim which should add fuel to their already sizzling feud. Savage, of course, is the Slim Jim spokesman, and what better setting for Hogan to show his superiority — and further embarrass Savage in the process.

"When Hogan and I meet in the ring, one of us will be carried out on a stretcher; it's that simple; there's no two ways about it," Savage said, "and, trust me, it won't be the Macho Man on his back counting the light bulbs."

"Right now, I don't give a damn about Hulk Hogan or 13 years of Hulkamania. Sure, anyone being honest with themselves will say that he was one big force in professional wrestling over that time, no doubt about it. Most will say that there was no one more powerful than him during that time; history will say that. But, now, if he thinks he's going to continue on, on top of the mountain, he's mistaken. Hulk Hogan has put himself in front of a firing line. If he survives this, then, and only then, is he the No. 1 wrestler of all time. But I don't think he's going to survive; he's got too many people gunning at him."

Hogan himself has more enemies now than the entire Dungeon of Doom. Hogan's faithful following from years past has deserted him and it's hatred toward The Hulkster is immortal. That, you see, is what happens when the man tells his fans to "stick it," sides with the renegade New World Order and claims to be bigger than the sport itself.

"I don't think anyone is bigger than the sport. When Babe Ruth quit playing baseball, the game didn't end. When Joe Montana retired, the game didn't end. Well, when Hulk Hogan pulls out of wrestling, the sport will go on. Sure, he's done a lot to bring the sport to the level it is at today, but he did not MAKE professional wrestling. That's a real prima-donna talking," Savage said, still shaking his head at the antics and action of his former ally.

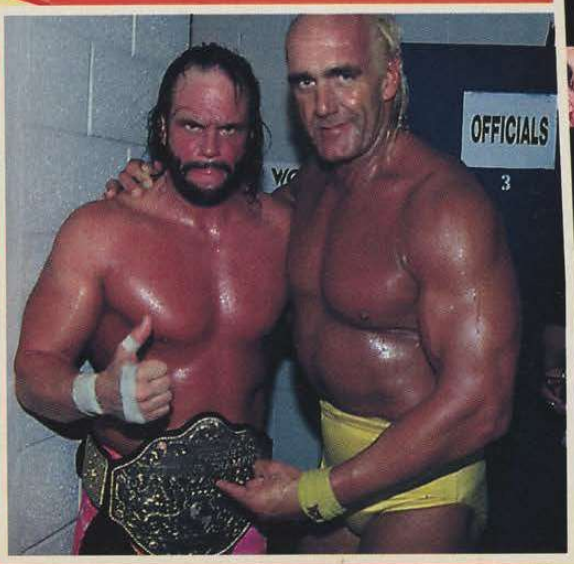
"WCW officials made me go see a psychiatrist ... hell, I think Hulk Hogan needs to go see one."

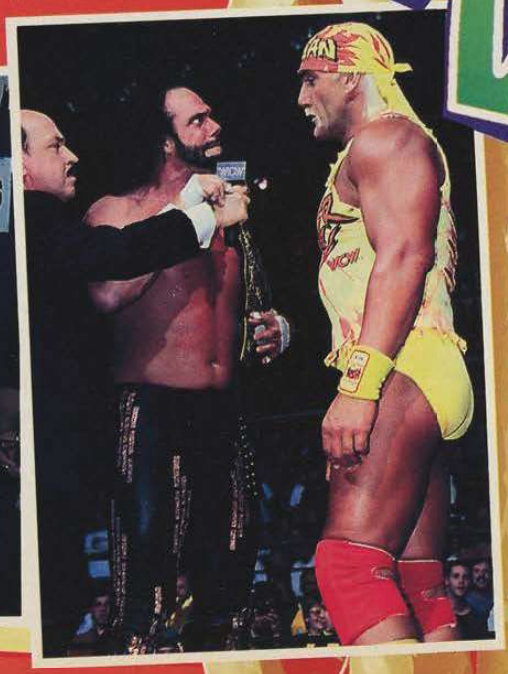
Savage was the first to receive Hogan's back-stabbing, in the form of a shocking leg-drop at Bash at the Beach. Hogan hit a second leg-drop, then a third to add insult to injury. Savage was out cold for all three, but watches the scene repeatedly on video tape.

"I often have to pinch myself when I see or hear some of the things Hogan is doing or saying," Savage said. "Whatever he's doing these days, he's doing for himself. He clearly has his own personal agenda. He's got The NWO going; they're on a roll, I can't deny that. Truthfully, I'm kind of shocked by Hogan's actions, just like everyone else."

"At one time or another all of us have gone off on a tangent, but he went past that. Hogan has

Coun to H





dug himself a hole that he can't get out of."

Hogan has two friends (as of press time): Scott Hall and Kevin Nash. Sure, others will no doubt join The NWO, but will it be enough to withstand an onslaught from every corner of WCW?

"Watching the video (of Bash at the Beach) and seeing how proud he was of doing what he did to me, wow, he's unbelievable; that's what eats at me," Savage said. "Hogan gave me his best shot and I took his best shot ... and I'm still here. I'm fine, ready to go at him. Hogan might have won one battle (at the Bash), but certainly not the war with the Macho Man."

"I keep hearing these so-called 'experts' say that Hogan and I were bound to split up, that the Mega Powers could never last. And, yeah, (that) probably was so. Still, I was trying to stay positive about re-uniting the Mega Powers. I was just hoping the 'experts' were wrong because they aren't always right. This was one feather in the cap of the 'experts,' I'll give them that."

"The next feather goes in the Macho Man's cap ... when I beat Hulk Hogan."

Savage added: "The Mega Powers were separate, but together. Neither one of us was a tag team specialist; we each are singles wrestlers. But we joined forces at different times over the years when needed, if we thought it would work. There have been people since Day One of The Mega Powers who have said it would never work, that we could never co-exist. Well, they're right in one sense: we'll never co-exist again. Hogan's done; he's finished when I get my hands on him."

Savage stresses that destroying Hulk Hogan is more important than re-claiming the World Heavyweight Championship. Even if a win means re-claiming the WCW title from the grip of The NWO.

"The belt that he has, he can name it anything he wants, but it's still the belt I once held. Yeah, I want the belt back, that would be nice, but just so I could wrap it over his head. Then maybe I'll throw it over the George Washington Bridge in New York and get rid of The NWO for good," Savage said. "I have no respect for either one of Hogan's pals, Hall or Nash. Both are big, but, beyond that, they aren't much."

"To kill a snake, you've got to cut off its head ... and that's what I'm going to do to Hulk Hogan."

"The New World Order has been picking their shots, and using a bunch of cheap-shot tactics. But when you go one-on-one or two-on-two, that's a whole 'nother story, and that's the Macho Man's forte."

Savage paused, then added: "I don't even know why I'm fighting so hard for WCW because I've been having nothing but trouble with them politically. But, when I look at The NWO then think about WCW, man, WCW is like heaven on earth."

Savage would not comment about "rumors" concerning future NWO members. Would he join? "Not a chance in our lifetime, or the next," Savage said.

"Hulk Hogan didn't do anything for Randy Savage over the years, and Randy Savage really didn't do anything for Hulk Hogan. Sure, we've been there for one another when we've been fighting the world, but nothing other than that."

"Now things are going to heat up."

"YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A MACHO MASS OF MUSCLE TO PICK UP ONE OF THESE."

Just enter the Slim Jim Halloween Havoc Snap-2-Win Sweepstakes.

Oh, yeah, it's coming. It's called Halloween Havoc. And it's gonna be a monster showdown between wrestling's biggest names.

Now you can be part of the action. By joining the Slim Jim Halloween Havoc Snap-2-Win Sweepstakes.

We're talking big-time prizes. Starting with the Grand Prize, a specially customized Slim Jim street legal monster truck. You can even help design it yourself!

There's more. Like a trip for four to Vegas so you can be right there, live and in person, at the WCW Halloween Havoc pay-per-view event on October 27th.

If you don't win the trip, we've got the next best thing. How 'bout winning a big-screen TV and watching the event during a Halloween Havoc Party in your home — with Slim Jim picking up the tab!

Other prizes include watching the Halloween Havoc pay-per-view broadcast for free. Or getting your very own Slim Jim Halloween Havoc T-shirt.

So get over to your nearest convenience store. Look for the Slim Jim Snap-2-Win display to find out how to enter. This Halloween, there'll be plenty of tricks in the ring and lots of treats for you.

RINGTHEBELL77 on Archive.org

Slim Jim is a registered trademark of GFI Holdings, Inc. © 1996

OWWW!

WHERE DO THEY GET THIS STUFF?

Subscribe now to WCW Magazine and make sure you don't miss out on the hottest stories and wildest action on the planet. A subscription not only saves you money, but it ensures you get to read the magazine before it goes on sale on the newsstands. So what are you waiting for? Order yours today.

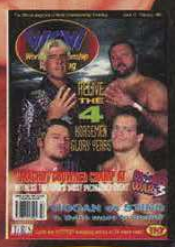
Issue 1

Issue 2

Issue 3

Issue 10

Issue 11


Issue 12

Issue 4

Issue 5

Issue 6

Issue 13

Issue 14

Issue 15

Issue 7

Sold out

Issue 9

Issue 16

Issue 17

I want a 12 month subscription to WCW Magazine at a cost of $38.00 in the USA & Canada, £24.00 in the UK & Ireland

Start subscription with issue .....

Renewal ☐ New subscription ☐

Method of payment

(Checks payable to Cell Publishing Ltd.)

Check or money order $38.00 ☐

Check or money order £24.00 ☐

MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ £24.00 Sterling

Credit card transactions will be debited in UK funds

Card no.: .....

Expiry date : .....

Name on card : .....

Signature : .....

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

City .....

State / County .....

Zip / Post code .....

European subscriptions £40.00

International £48.00 UK funds only

Please allow 8 weeks to receive first issue

I would also like the following back issues at $5.00 USA / Canada £3.00 UK / Ireland per copy

1 ☒ 2 ☒ 3 ☒ 4 ☒ 5 ☒ 6 ☒

7 ☒ 9 ☒ 10 ☒ 11 ☒ 12 ☒ 13 ☒

14 ☒ 15 ☒ 16 ☒ 17 ☒

and I enclose a payment of $ / £ .....

Please send form and payment to:

In the USA & Canada

WCW Magazine c/o Colin Bowman One CNN Center

Box no. 105366 Atlanta GA 30348 - 5366

In the UK & Ireland

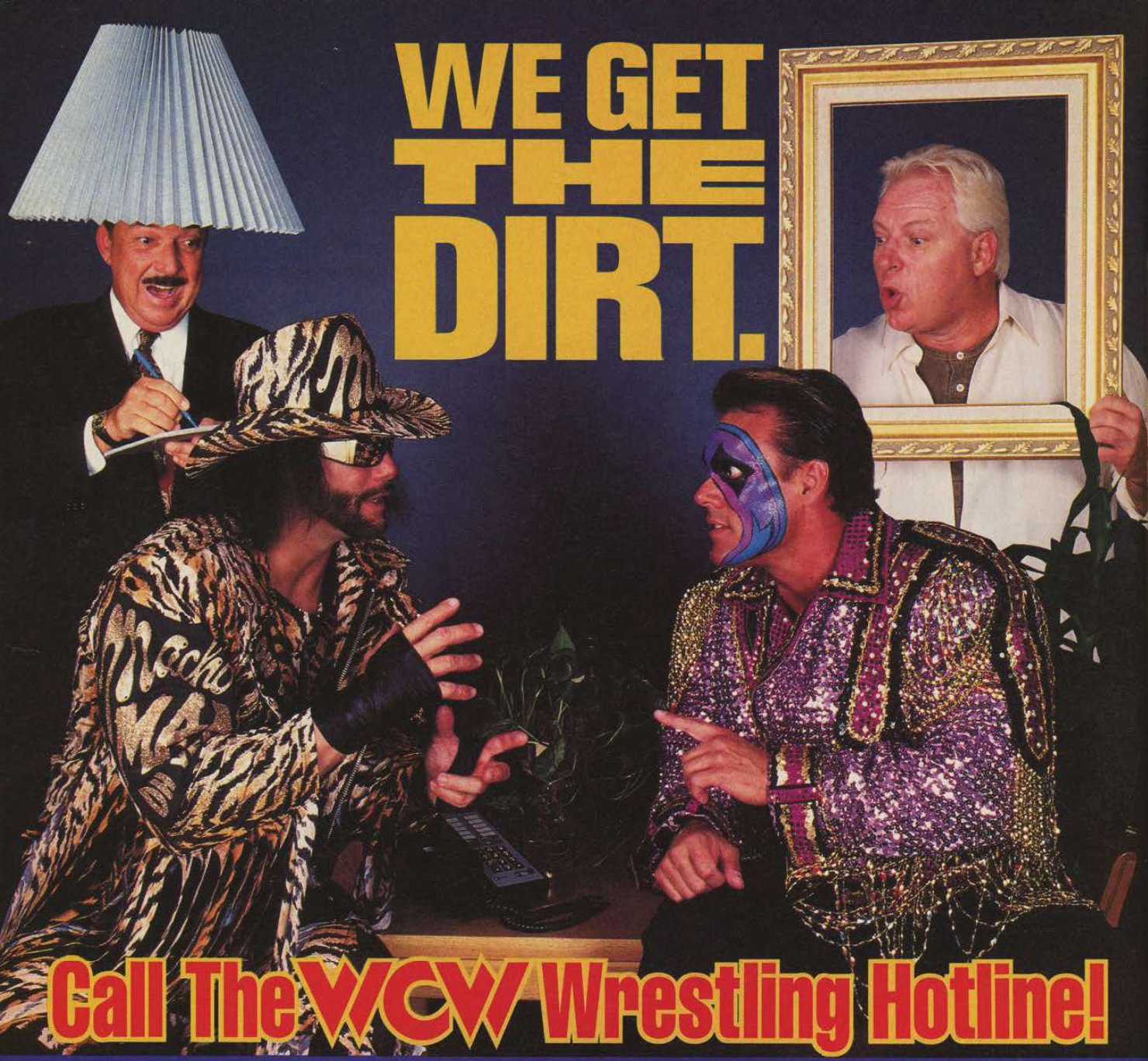
WCW Magazine Cell Publishing Ltd.

21/23 Earl St Maidstone Kent ME14 1PL

RING THE BELL 2 on Archive.org

THE GIANT

WCW magazine



Call The WCW Wrestling Hotline!

1-900-909-9900

Call costs $1.49 per minute.

Average call length is 5 minutes.

Children under 18 must obtain parental permission before calling.

Call 24 hours a day - 7 days a week. Call from any kind of phone, digital or rotary.

DAILY UPDATE

Sunday- Bobby "The Brain" Heenan
Monday- Mike Tenay
Tuesday- Terry Taylor
Wednesday- Mark Madden
Thursday- Mike Tenay
Friday- Mark Madden
Saturday-"Mean" Gene Okerlund

PIN THE CHAMP

Have you got what it takes to go head to head with the superstars of WCW? Here's your chance to find out. Just call and brawl with the hottest interactive wrestling game in the world!

WCW VOTE LINE

Voice your opinion!
Get something off your chest!
Vote on current hot World Championship Wrestling topics.
This is the place for the fans to let their voices be heard!

CANADIAN FANS CALL 1-900-451-5344, CALLS COST $1.99 PER MINUTE

Void where prohibited. Daily programming subject to change and availability. World Championship Wrestling, One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348-5366

from the top
ERIC BISCHOFF

The offices usually get bigger the higher one gets in a corporate structure, and so do the woes. I know that all too well, at least the part about problems. My business card says WCW Executive Vice President/General Manager, so, as one of WCW's highest-ranking executives, I have to deal with dilemmas face-to-face. There often aren't many options when an out-of-control situation comes across my desk. Usually, by that point, an immediate response is needed, and it often carries dire consequences.

Such as the scene these days in WCW, or do I dare say in The NWO?

To say the very least, things are out of control in WCW.

The summer of '96 will always be remembered as the Crossroads of Craziness. As August draws to a close, WCW is getting to the point where I am often asking myself, 'Is WCW unravelling right before my very eyes?' And to tell you the truth, it appears as though it is.

The question is, can we — that's wrestlers, announcers and even the front-office staff — keep WCW together long enough to withstand the pressure put on us from The New World Order?

As I type my inaugural column, The NWO is a team of three: Scott Hall, Kevin Nash and Hulk Hogan. No doubt there will be more.

Rey Mysterio, Jr., was convinced in late-July that their troop was a quad squad. As Mysterio said in his native tongue, quatro. That, no doubt, is true. But I wonder, what will the final NWO roster offer? Five? Seven? Ten? More? Hulk Hogan, whether you like him or not, has a lot of power. So, there's no limit to the number of wrestlers that will join his hoard of henchmen.

The NWO has made it perfectly clear that everyone in WCW is fair-game. Plain and simple, if you receive a pay-check from WCW, you too will be at the mercy of The NWO. It's clear that The NWO wants to destroy WCW, at all costs.

It's interesting ... you always hear how one wrestler wants to destroy another. "Macho Man" Randy Savage wants to destroy "Nature Boy" Ric Flair. Big Bubba wants to destroy Hacksaw Jim Duggan. The Giant wants to destroy Sting.

But, in the case of The NWO, they want to destroy an entire wrestling organization. That even means management, production staff and referees. Gee, I wonder if the popcorn vendors are safe?

Ever since May 27th, keeping the WCW ship afloat has been a tough job. There's no doubt that WCW is in the bailing stage. .

Several weeks ago, on the WCW Hotline, Mean Gene Okerlund told his Saturday listeners that, to his amazement, he spotted me and Hulk Hogan on the same yacht, sailing together as we sipped champagne off the coast of Florida. I didn't see Mean Gene that day and, quite frankly, am a little puzzled as to why, if he did in fact see me, he didn't at least say, "Hello." I don't care to answer Gene's statement other than to say, what I do in my spare time is not going to be discussed in this magazine, certainly not in my column. My private time and my personal relationships are exactly that: private and personal.

On the subject of Hulk Hogan, I think it sucks that he claims to be the "NWO Champion." His win over The Giant at "Hog Wild" in Sturgis, S.D., was disturbing, to say the least. His attitude and approach, which I described as a thug in black, is reprehensible. I think we're getting a look at the real Hulk Hogan these days, and it's not a pretty picture. It certainly is not what all of us thought it, er, he was. Quite frankly, had I known what Hulk Hogan was all about two years ago when I negotiated to bring him into WCW, I wouldn't have let him in my house, let alone bring him into our wrestling organization. Hulk Hogan has been two-facing the world for how long now? He's been preaching one thing — train, say your prayers and eat your vitamins — yet believing another.

And that's the man who The NWO wants to lead their troops into battle against the best of WCW?

What about a WCW Dream Team, much like the NBA has done for the past three Olympics? Can you imagine a WCW foursome of The Giant, Savage, Flair and Luger as teammates?

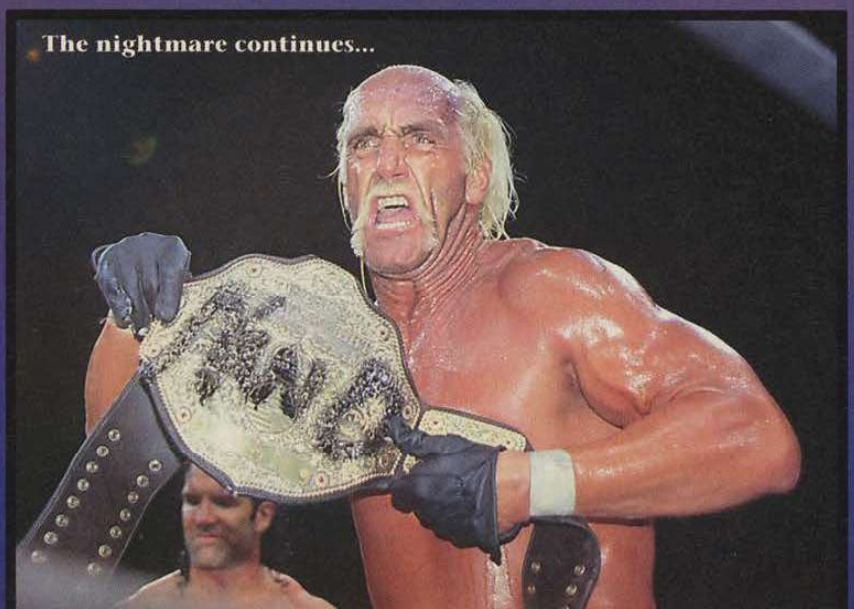
I for one would love to see it!!

At this point, it appears that The NWO is a little more effective running its gameplan than WCW has been running its gameplan. But the game isn't over yet, and it won't be over as long as WCW continues to exist.

Ever since Hall and Nash stepped out onto a WCW program, and certainly the night Hulk Hogan turned his back on the world, everyone involved in WCW has become much more concerned for their own position within the company, concerned about the company, concerned about the future. And, ironically, what Hogan did, was not only turn the world against him, but also unite an entire organization against The NWO.

There are a lot of people in WCW who have put their personal issues to the side, maybe on the back-burner, just to get at The NWO. That's encouraging.

In closing, I want to issue a statement to all WCW wrestlers and staff currently under contract: if you are even thinking about joining The NWO, goodbye, good luck and good riddance!



The nightmare continues...

HotLiNe

MARK MADDEN

DISCLAIMER: This column features the comments and thoughts of Mark Madden. WCW Magazine nor WCW endorse or agree with his opinions and any complaints should be made to the man himself.

Scott Hall and Kevin Nash are men with axes to grind. And baseball bats to swing. Hall and Nash are back in WCW, only this time they are not part of the promotion. They're part of The Outsiders. They're part of a conspiracy to take over and maybe destroy WCW. They're part of the Hoaxter's New World Order. But unlike that failed B-movie star, Hulk Hogan, at least their anger has basis.

Hall and Nash you see, are not strangers to WCW.

Hall was previously in WCW as an assortment of failed personas. The Diamond Studd. Gator Scott Hall. American Starship Coyote. Kevin Nash was in WCW as one of the Master Blasters. The laughable Oz. Vinnie Vegas.

Sure, they got their chance, but what kind of a chance did any of them have in roles like that? Hall got fired. Nash was allowed to leave.

Each went someplace where it was easier to be a success. Hall refined his Diamond Studd persona. Nash took Vinnie Vegas to a whole new level.

They were successful.

But, I'm guessing, anger seethed inside Scott Hall and Kevin Nash.

I've covered sports a long time. believe me, a guy who hits .300 in the minors, is never as happy as the guy hitting .200 in the majors. A guy with 50 goals in the minors would rather be scoring 10 goals in the NHL.

And more important, the minor-leaguers resent the major-leaguers.

If they're floridly psychotic, they wait to wreak revenge.

Luckily, pro sports is relatively bereft of those who are floridly psychotic. In fact, I can't think of anyone besides Albert Belle.

But in wrestling, psychosis is the norm, not the exception. Scott Hall and Kevin Nash, their previous WCW failures forgotten by us but fresh in their minds, returned to WCW not intending to compete. But intending to destroy.

It'll bring out the best in them. Neither is a very good wrestler, but both are pretty good brawlers when they're battling for a cause.

And Kevin Nash and Scott Hall believe in their cause.

Some would say it's not a just one.

For the Hoaxter, it's not. He got every opportunity WCW had to offer even though he was already way over the hill when he joined the promotion, then he spat in Ted Turner's face. In Eric Bischoff's face. In WCW's face.

But as for Scott Hall and Kevin Nash, well I understand.

You see, I look at them and see myself.

I've been a part of the WCW Hotline going on three years now. I bring the hotline a lot of business. I bring WCW a lot of money. Callers stay on the line a lot longer with me than they do any other hotline personality.

Yet, when it comes to promo time on TV, it's always Gene this and Gene that, with wrestling's original carnival huckster plugging his watered-down wares and no one else's. When it comes time to film a hotline commercial, WCW drags Gene and Bobby Heenan out of the drunk tank, throws a couple of stupid costumes on them and hopes for a wrap before both pass out.

Scott Hall and Kevin Nash are bitter because they got short shrift during their first WCW stint. They got no help. They played second fiddle.

They stood around watching tired old faces do tired old things while the prime of their careers started wasting away. They saw time and money poured into over-the-hill bums while they became things like Diamond Studd and Oz.

To seize an opportunity, you must be offered one.

Their first time around in WCW, Hall and Nash didn't seize their opportunity. Mainly because they weren't offered one.

Now they've come to seize the whole promotion.

And as God is my witness, if they weren't affiliated with that piece of human garbage Hulk Hogan, I would be rooting for them to do it.

As the prime of my career in wrestling disappears, as I get older, as I consider the chances I never got, I realize one thing.

Ich bin ein Outsider.

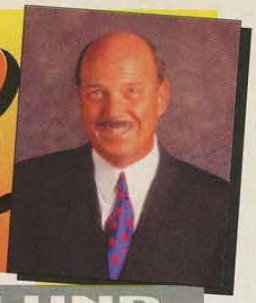
I am an Outsider.

And always will be.

Ich bin ein Outsider as well

Mark Madden hosts the WCW Hotline updates on a Wednesday and Friday

BUZZ



MEAN GENE OKERLUND

Continuing my popular series, introducing you to the non-wrestling stars in WCW, it is my pleasure to introduce our newest announcer, Mr. Lee Marshall.

He lied, as a sophomore at Central High School in Phoenix, to get his first broadcasting job (at KMEO-FM), saying he was older than his mere 14 years. Then, several years later, while still a teenager, he became the news and sports director at KRIZ-FM in Phoenix which, at the time, was Billboard Magazine's Radio Station of the Year. For the entire country.

Lee Marshall since has turned a love for the spoken word into a Hall of Fame Broadcasting career. He's so good, so distinguished, so recognizable that his broadcasting is now used as a teaching tool at the University of Illinois and is featured in the Radio & Television Broadcasting Museum in New York City.

Lee Marshall is the man with the golden chords.

"I always wanted to be a broadcaster; that's all I aspired to do," said Marshall, who, like myself, is, uh hum, 39-years-old.

Marshall has weaved his news and sports announcing chores with his true passion: pro wrestling, which stems to his grandfather, grappler Jack Mayer. Marshall is now heard along with Dusty Rhodes each and every Saturday morning on the WCW Pro telecasts (9:05 ET, Superstation TBS). Plus, Marshall is a regular on WCW Saturday Night and pay-per-view telecasts.

"I can't believe I've been doing this for over 25 years. I guess it (the number of years broadcasting) only really hits me when I stand still and think about it," Marshall said via phone from his Southern California office overlooking the famous Hollywood sign at Shadow Broadcasting Services, a company that provides news, sports and traffic reports to radio stations across the country. Marshall is the company's vice-president.

Marshall's broadcasting career moved to Detroit in 1972, where he was heard on CKLW, a station based in the Canadian city of Windsor, Ont. His reports were heard in 28 States and six Canadian Provinces. He also worked as a play-by-play announcer for the Detroit Lions and pre-game host for the baseball Tigers.

Marshall returned to the West in 1978, when he joined KHJ-Radio in Los Angeles. Two years later, he joined KABC and the ABC Radio Network. He was the station's news director and hosted a regular sports talk-show. Marshall was a pioneer in sports gab long before The Fabulous Sports Babe could spell microphone. And to spice up his shows, even though the station was rather "traditional," Marshall often welcomed such guests as "Rowdy" Roddy Piper and "Classy" Freddie Blassie.

Marshall's Los Angeles legacy also includes 12-years broadcasting pre- and post-game Dodger shows, sitting some five feet away from legendary announcer Vin Scully in the Dodger Stadium press box.

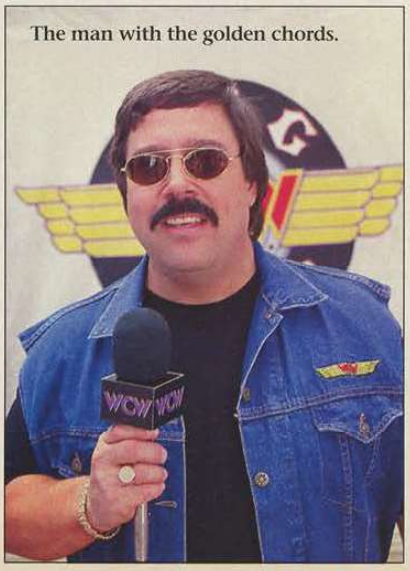
In 1985, Marshall jumped at an opportunity to announce AWA action on television. He stayed with the federation until its final hours and, yes, Marshall teamed quite often with an up-and-coming broadcaster named Eric Bischoff.

Marshall returned to wrestling TV chores this past January.

"Being a part of WCW is so exciting. To me, WCW is exactly what I thought wrestling would become: non-stop excitement, phenomenal athletes and unsurpassed television production,"

Marshall said. "Unquestionably, WCW is the varsity of professional wrestling."

Marshall is a modest fellah away from the ring, or the bright lights of a television production. He often mingles with the wrestling crowd and never refuses an autograph request. He is a witty talent and a six-time Golden Mike Award-winner; that, by the way, is the radio equivalent of an Emmy. Marshall covered the 1984 Olympics for ABC Radio, Canada's BBC and MMM of Australia. He is a baseball buff who often has trivia contests about the national pastime with Dusty Rhodes and Bobby "The Brain" Heenan. (Hey, Lee, here's one for you: Who was the first pitcher to play 15 or more full seasons in the majors without ever receiving a starting assignment?)



The man with the golden chords.

"There have been so many exciting moments in wrestling broadcasting," Marshall began, "but the one that truly stands out the most was the time, years ago, when Hulk Hogan teamed with 'Rowdy' Roddy Piper for the first time. That was a match I'll never forget."

Marshall is just as opinionated about some of WCW's superstars. Check out some of his responses:

DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE

"Without a doubt, the most dedicated wrestler in this business. And, it's funny ... I still remember when he first broke into wrestling back in the AWA."

RIC FLAIR

"I have the greatest respect and admiration for him."

ARN ANDERSON

"He is the most focused, dedicated wrestler around."

THE STEINER BROTHERS (RICK and SCOTT)

"They are, all-around, the best team in the sense that they can be great technical wrestlers or simple brutes."

STING

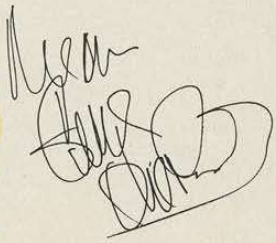
"He's the only one who truly walks the talk."

LEX LUGER

"Lex could be the greatest World Heavyweight Champion of all time, but has never fulfilled his potential for greatness because he doesn't stay focused. Lex Luger could have been a decathlon competitor for several Olympic Games, and won with ease because of his abundance of athletic ability. He's never come through the way he could have, the way he should have ... and that bothers me; it really upsets me."

In closing, I'd like to hand the microphone over to recently-retired Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda who, years ago, had this to say about our very own Lee Marshall, "If God ever wanted to give a speech, Lee Marshall would get the call."

'Til next month, take care.



Mean Gene Okerlund is the co-host of the weekly WCW Main Event program on TBS.
You can also hear him every Saturday on the WCW Hotline.

UNDERRAT

Ask any wrestler to list the top tag team wrestlers in the sport and consistently at No.1 will be Earl Robert Eaton. WCW Magazine examines what WCW's wrestlers can see that is constantly overlooked by fans and commentators alike.

"Macho Man" Randy Savage and Marcus Bagwell of The American Males sat together in a secluded area of Disney/MGM Studio one day in late-August talking baseball. Savage, the former minor league catcher, told Bagwell, the prep baseball standout, about his experiences and each offered play off predictions. The two then tried to stump one another with baseball trivia — until Earl Robert Eaton walked by. Savage and Bagwell stopped their conversation, looked at Eaton as if to say, 'What do you want?'

Eaton, though, just encouraged them to continue, surprising them with his knowledge of the national pastime.

"Roger Maris' 61-home run record in 1961 is the one mark that never will be broken; Pete Rose should be in the Hall of Fame and Johnny Bench was the greatest catcher of all time," Eaton said.

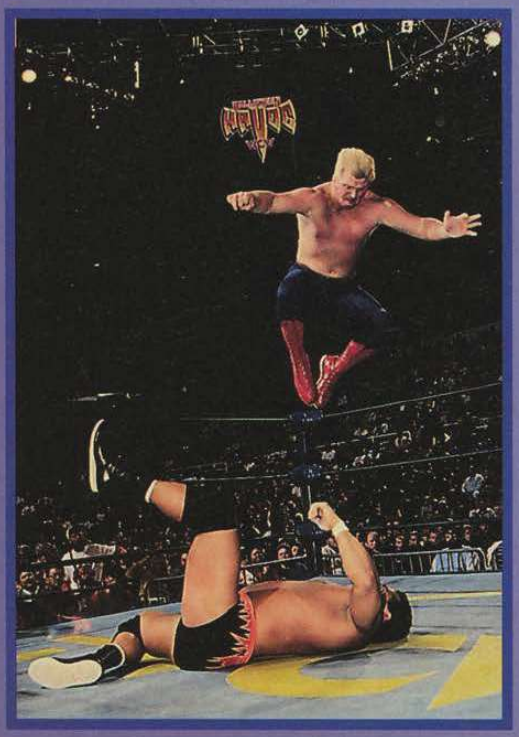
Bagwell was amazed. Savage was shocked. Both were silenced. Neither expected baseball wisdom from this pompous member of The Blue Bloods.

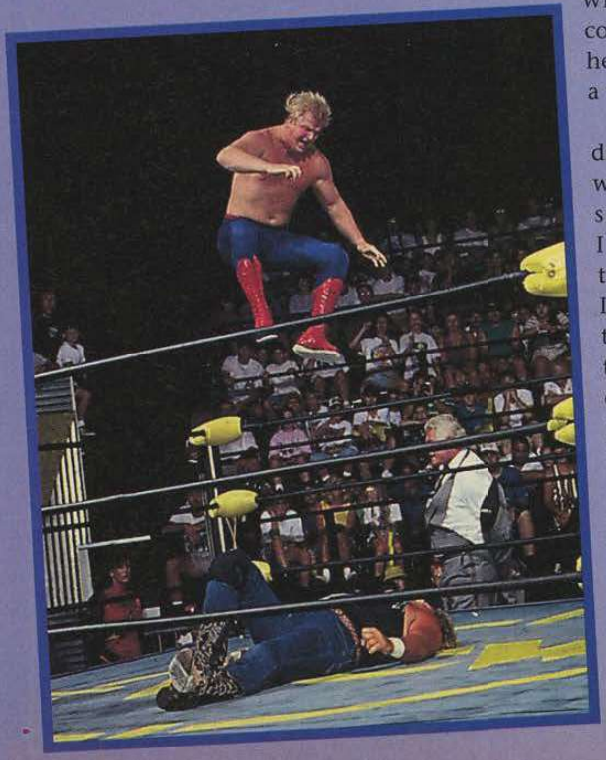
Eaton then offered a sporting insight that was, shall we say, beautiful. He told of his dedication to the Green Bay Packers and the University of Alabama, and his admiration for such athletes as Bart Starr, Wilt Chamberlain, Jerry West and Gail Goodrich, among others.

Eaton's actions that afternoon were, it seems, a flashback to a former life, long before English tea and a butler named Jeeves. Or, maybe just part of WCW's unification against the New World Order.

"I've been a lifelong sports fan; that's football, baseball, basketball and, of course, wrestling," Eaton said in a rare interview. (For over a year, Eaton has rejected WCW Magazine's interview requests, and why he agreed to talk this time was, well, still is a mystery.)

Eaton, a father of four (Jason, 17; Dustin, 12; Taryn, 10; Dylan, 8), celebrated his 34th birthday on August 14, and has spent more than half his life in the sport of wrestling. He set up the ring for free as a teenager growing up in Huntsville, Ala., and got his big break as a wrestler when, after convincing promoters that he was old enough (a lie), a wrestler no-showed.





"The sport was a lot different back then from what it is today," Eaton said. "Wrestling when I started was based on territories. For instance, I was involved in the Tennessee-Alabama territory where we had cards with, oh, maybe four matches per night.

"I was excited as hell when I got to wrestle for the first time. Heck, I was excited every time I went to the wrestling matches just to watch. Early on, I guess I did pretty good as a wrestler because I immediately

ED...WHY?

became a regular."

Eaton, a decent athlete by anyone's standards, jumped into the Mid-South scene in 1983, then spent some time with Fritz Von Erich & Co. in Dallas. He also has wrestled extensively in and around Evansville, Ind., and Charlotte, N.C.

From 1985 through 1989, Eaton was a stalwart in The Midnight Express, originally with Dennis Condrey, then with Stan Lane. Jim Cornette was their manager, and the team battled The Rock 'n Roll Express, Dusty Rhodes, Magnum T.A. and The Fantastics, among others.

"I've always thought The Midnight Express was a great team, and it definitely was a wonderful experience," Eaton said. "We were good friends in and out of the ring; that's what made us so strong. Plus, we were a good mix (of talent); that was the key."

"There have been a lot of other wrestlers over the years who have said Dennis and me were the greatest tag team of all time. That, remember, is what others said, not me (talking). And our high-ratings on some TBS shows proved our merit."

So, Bobby, what about The Rock 'n Roll Express' recent return to WCW?

"They were a great team, and still are; I have a lot of respect for them. We had a bunch of battles against them over the years, but, if I get my hands on them, they won't be great anymore," Eaton said. "People have said that The Rock 'n Roll Express (members) are too old, but that's not true. They can still get the job done. Plus, look at it from this perspective: The Rolling Stones still sell-out Shea Stadium in New York, and you can bet they are older than either (member of) The Rock 'n Roll Express."

Eaton and Sting are the lone long-time WCW competitors who have survived wrestling's non-stop turmoil and been true team-players. Even veteran WCW greats such as Ric Flair and Arn Anderson have jumped ship to test the wrestling waters elsewhere.

Eaton's WCW career also has included teaming with Steve Keirn and, of course, numerous singles matches. In fact, Eaton defeated Anderson for the TV Title in May of 1991.

Still, Eaton has established himself as one of the premiere tag-partners in the business, if only because he has adjusted to others and made the team better. Eaton is a firm believer in the philosophy that there is no 'I' in TEAM.

"I just like tag team (wrestling) better than singles action. Truthfully, I hate singles matches," said Eaton, best known for his Tower of London leap onto an opponent. "I can think of better things to do, better moves, better counter-holds when I have to do so for me and a partner as opposed to just me. I bring knowledge and experience to a tag team. Sure, some might consider me old, but I'm not. I'm still a kid at heart, and that helps a bunch."

"As for The Blue Bloods, well, our destiny is no where near its peak. We are a good team ... we just haven't had enough in-ring time together to gel, to mesh. We haven't held the (championship) gold yet, but our time will come."

EATON'S RECORD

World Tag Team Champion

2nd February 1986 with Dennis Condrey defeated Rock 'n Roll Express

10th September 1989 with Stan Lane defeated Arn Anderson & Tully Blanchard

16th January 1992 with Arn Anderson defeated Rick Steamboat & Dustin Rhodes

Television Champion

19th May 1991 defeated Arn Anderson

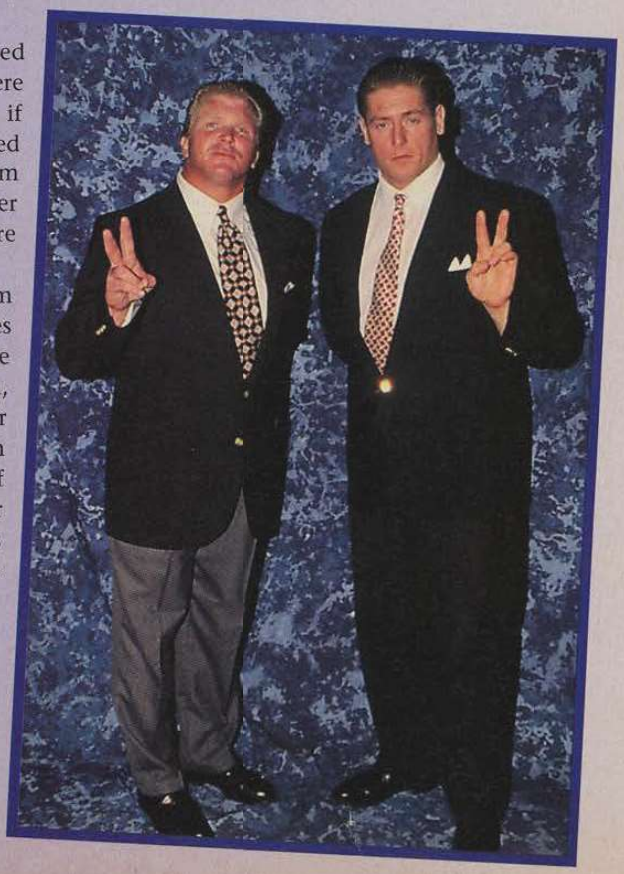
US Tag Team Champion

16th May 1987 with Stan Lane defeated Ron Garvin & Barry Windham in tournament final

10th July 1988 with Stan Lane defeated The Fantastics

Vacated when they won the World title

19th May 1990 with Stan Lane defeated Tom Zenk & Brian Pillman



Chris Benoit's battles with Kevin Sullivan and The Dungeon of Doom are legendary. But one fact has been curiously forgotten. The Dungeon of Doom is not Benoit's first Dungeon experience. As a product of Stu Hart's legendary Dungeon, Benoit is finally at the forefront of WCW, helping to continue the great traditions set by The Four Horsemen over the years. In a candid interview Benoit talks about his formative years.

MY DUNGEON WILL DOOM SULLIVAN

World Championship Wrestling's Power Plant training facility is state of the art. Three rings. Top-notch weight equipment. A lot of room. Fine instructors.

But, as Canadian Crippler Chris Benoit of The Four Horsemen said, "It's not where you train. It's who trains you."

Benoit, 28, is proof of that.

Benoit learned to wrestle in a guy's basement.

Well, that's a bit misleading.

The guy wasn't just any guy. It was Stu Hart, patriarch of wrestling's Hart family and boss of Stampede Wrestling, which promoted in Western Canada before the big corporations took over wrestling.

And the basement wasn't just any basement.

It was Stu Hart's Dungeon.

It was the most legendary training facility in wrestling history.

"It was just a few rooms," Benoit said. "A weight room, a room with mats, another room with a treadmill and a punching bag. It wasn't all that big, that's for sure. It was just a dark, dank place. A sweatbox.

"The first time I set foot in that place, I was petrified. I was 18 years old and I was in Stu Hart's Dungeon. It was a dream come true, something I'd been dreaming of since I was 12. I'd slept, ate and drank wrestling. Everything I did revolved around getting the chance to wrestle. And there I was facing off with Stu Hart in his Dungeon. It was a thrill. But intimidating, too."

Benoit started training at the Dungeon in early 1986.

"My family moved to Edmonton, Alberta, when I was about 12 and I started going to wrestling then," said Benoit. "And I went week after week. The first match I ever saw, I saw Dynamite Kid. I idolized him from then on."

"Stampede Wrestling was all there was, the only TV. We heard about other territories but to us, everything revolved around Stampede."

If you could only watch one wrestling promotion in those days, Stampede wasn't a bad one to pick. The territory had established wrestlers like Dynamite Kid, Davey Boy Smith, Bret Hart and Bruce Hart, and promising youngsters like Owen Hart and Brian Pillman. Many Stampede wrestlers also worked Japan.

"The stuff you see wrestlers doing in Japan now, a lot of Stampede guys were doing back then," Benoit said.

Stampede's style was indeed unique, a hybrid of Japan and the techniques that Stu Hart taught in his Dungeon.

Benoit didn't have it easy in the Dungeon.

But he did have it good.

"I was lucky," said Benoit. "Nowadays you have a heck of a lot of guys running wrestling schools who really aren't qualified to. You can tell that just by looking at some of the guys coming into the business right now."

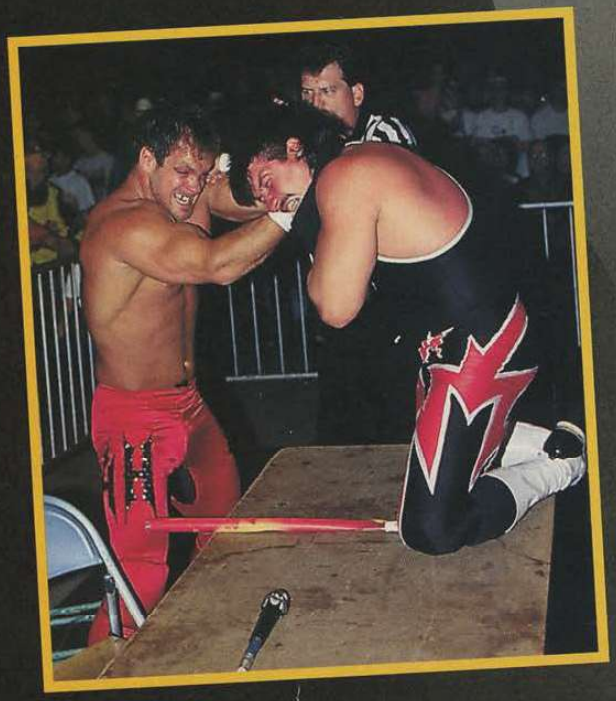
"I had great teachers. Stu and Bruce Hart and the other guys who taught at the Dungeon would take you from Step One and spoon-feed you all the way through. It was a great learning process, the way you should learn."

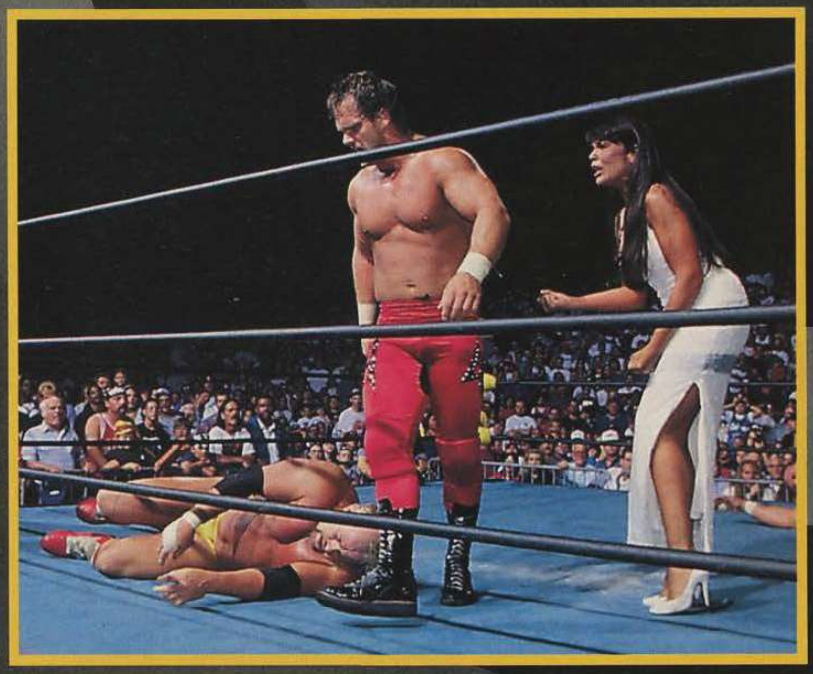
The Dungeon didn't even have a ring.

"Just mats," Benoit said, grinning.

But the Dungeon did have Stu Hart.

Whenever Stu Hart has appeared on TV in recent years, he's been presented as the kindly old patriarch of the Hart





family, made to look a bit feeble.

Don't believe the hype.

Stu Hart is on the other side of 70 now.

And he can still twist most guys into a pretzel.

"Stu is one of the grandmasters of the world of wrestling," said Benoit. "He was the Dungeon's E.F. Hutton. When he talked, everyone listened."

And when he wrestled, people screamed.

Many a cocky football player or bodybuilder descended into the dungeon full of swagger, convinced he'd lick this wrestling thing in a day or two.

Many left broken men.

The Hart family reportedly made audio tapes of some of these novices going to the mat with Stu, no youngster even then. The tapes are filled with the anguished screams of men being stretched all over the place, their body parts being made to move in ways they weren't meant to.

"All true, all true," said Benoit. "I heard it. I heard the infamous tape, which very few people have actually heard. And I saw it happen."

"I saw a lot of guys come down — big guys, like 6-4, 280 — and they thought they could just walk into the ring and dominate. Well, it would take about a minute in there with Stu and they'd realize how helpless they really were."

"Stu was in what, his sixties then, and he'd just be killing these guys. Just killing them. They'd be screaming like little kids. It was an incredible sight, a guy his age doing that. Not so much what he could do, but the knowledge that enabled him to do it. It was all knowledge."

Stu Hart, you see, taught humility as well as wrestling.

And his knowledge even made Benoit scream out.

"I've been there," acknowledged Benoit. "I felt it. I felt his wrath. But after Stu stretched you, he respected you. If you stayed."

"If you could survive the Dungeon, you were ready."

Benoit left the Dungeon poised to dominate. It took a while.

But right now he's considered one of the very best there is.

"He's one of the top five or six wrestlers in the world," said Dave Meltzer, one of the nation's top unaffiliated wrestling experts. "Not only did Chris benefit from learning in the Dungeon, but breaking in with Stampede at that time helped, too. The style there was very progressive, very much ahead of its time thanks to people like Dynamite Kid. Guys like him worked Japan and brought that style back to Stampede."

"Chris learned there, then went out and expanded on what he learned by working in Japan, Europe and Mexico. He's very versatile."

Stu Hart is very old now. But look into his eyes.

Then look into Chris benoit's eyes.

It's the same look. Reflecting the same attitude.

"Being a graduate of the Dungeon means you have a certain style, a certain technique," said Benoit. "But one of the things that really stands out about anyone from the Dungeon is a certain attitude. Stu still has that air. It's a way of thinking, a way of life for him."

"We all have that attitude. If you're from the Dungeon, if you're from Stu Hart's territory, you have to succeed."

Stampede Wrestling is sadly defunct, but recently staged a card in Calgary, Alberta, as a tribute to Stu Hart. Stampede alumni, regardless of affiliation, from all over the world returned to wrestle on that show. Benoit wrestled Louie Spicolli.

"It's a real shame Stampede isn't still around," said Benoit. "It was one of the last places guys could wrestle 6 - 7 days a week. It was a great place to learn your craft, to excel, to be innovative. But I feel that Stampede has carried on with me. I've still got it in me. I'm proud to be from there."

"It was great to go back for the tribute show. It was incredible to see Stu, to wrestle in that ring, in that city, with all the old guys there."

The Dungeon is no more.

And not many graduates of the Dungeon are left.

But another recently arrived in WCW.

Lion Heart Chris Jericho was trained by the Harts. In fact, another promotion billed him as "The Last survivor of the Dungeon."

"Chris (Jericho) is an excellent talent," said Benoit. "He wasn't around during my days there, but I know him pretty well and he has my respect. He works hard and he has a good attitude about the business."

"I want to see him make it. He went through a lot of the same things I went through. I consider him blood, so to speak."

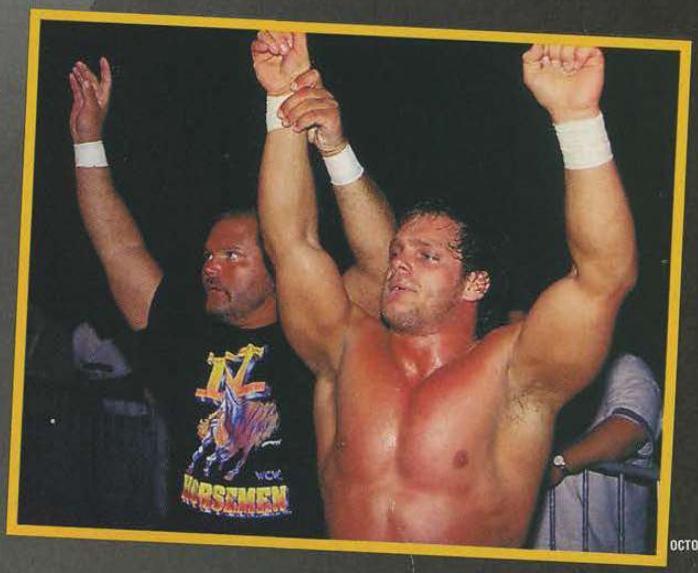
Benoit plans on wrestling for a long time.

But he doesn't rule out teaching people how to wrestle someday.

With one qualifier.

"I could teach, but never like Stu," Benoit laughed.

And with that he left, intent on handing out the lessons he learned in one Dungeon to destroy another.



the Wright stuff

During the Hulk Hogan Glory Years, there wasn't a kid in the world who didn't want to be like The Immortal One. The Hulkster was everything good. More than that, he was great and, quite possibly, the perfect role-model for the young and young-at-heart. He was loved, honored and respected, so, when he said to train, say your prayers and eat your vitamins, millions did just that without hesitation. From Nebraska to The Netherlands to Nuremburg, Hulk Hogan was pro wrestling.

"Hulk Hogan was for sure one of the main reasons I wanted to become a pro wrestler, and certainly one of the reasons I came to the United States," said 'Das Wunderkind' Alex Wright, the 21-year-old German native. "Hulk Hogan was a great role-model, that's why it's not right for him to have let all of the kids down. Hulk Hogan has hurt a lot of people over the past few months, with his actions and his comments, (including) myself and my little brother, Patrick."

"Hulk Hogan is a traitor."

And, well, whether Wright — or anyone, for that matter — likes it or not, Hogan also is a reigning champion, of some sort.

He's a titlist, having created the New World Order (NWO) Championship for himself after he and his gang of thugs (Scott Hall and Kevin Nash) were victorious over The Giant at Hog Wild in Sturgis, S.D.

"I will do everything in my power to make it impossible for them to take over WCW, and I know I stand for a lot of other wrestlers, guys who I'm friends with and even guys who, well, I'm not too friendly with," said Wright, one of WCW's many second-generation grapplers. Steven Wright, Alex's dad, was a professional wrestler for 26 years. The two still talk weekly.

"The New World Order has been using baseball bats as if they were acceptable weapons. That's not wrestling, that's not right. They're wrong! The New World Order is nothing but a bunch of chickens."

And Wright is more than willing to help pluck their feathers. Whatever way possible.

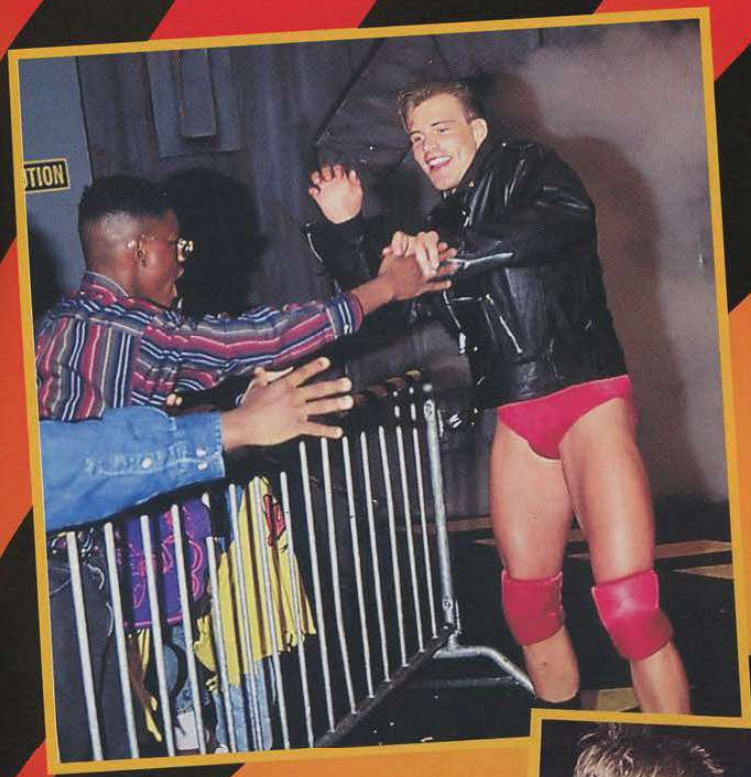
"I came to WCW 2 ½ years ago, and am very proud to be a wrestler in WCW," said Wright, spotted years ago during a WCW Tour through his native country. He had been wrestling professionally in his homeland and was asked to fill in one night for an injured WCW star; his first match was against Paul Roma.

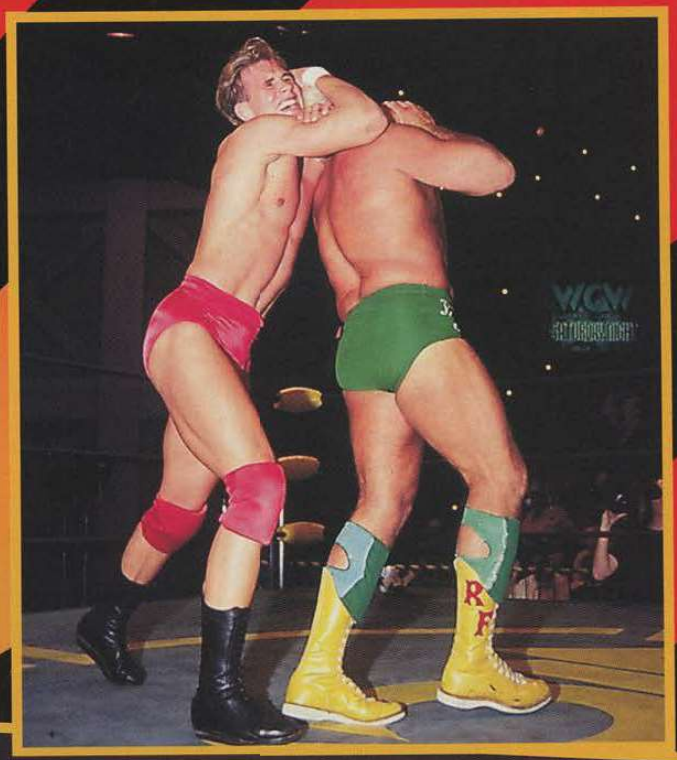
Wright has since danced his way to the winner's share of the purse many times.

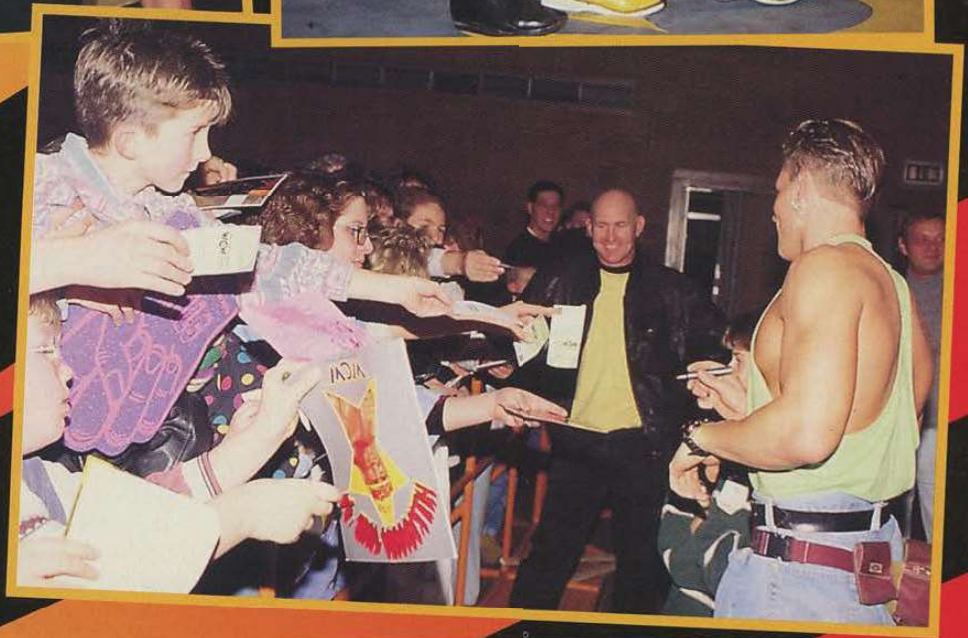
"I now feel so much more comfortable in the ring. I'm not nearly so nervous anymore. I now know how to go into my matches, and how to go at opponents. Sure, I still get some jitters every time I step into the ring and, of course, I still get very excited; the adrenaline is pumping. Professional wrestling is, and has been, my dream come true. I'm still trying to get better. I still have to learn a lot. Sooner or later, I hope to get a title shot and, eventually, win a title."

Wright is an ideal, yet unique, Cruiserweight. He tips the scales at 220-pounds, and is 6-foot-4. He has an array of aerial attacks on par with most, and couples that with a vast power attack. His size, specifically, height, limits his airborne assault, hence the recent addition of force-driven moves. And Wright's recent addition of 30 pounds, in muscle mass, also adds to his offense.

"I do the high-flying stuff, but







always stay in full control of my body. I don't do the crazy things," he said. "I haven't yet had a title reign here in WCW, but that's OK; my day will come. I've been injured a lot over the past six months, a lot of nagging injuries so that has slowed me. I'm now back on track and ready to run for some gold."

Wright has perfected the German suplex, and has scored many victories with his deadly dropkick off the top rope. The dancing fascination of his early-WCW days is history; now he's focused on a title.

He's adjusted to life in America although, naturally, "I still miss home and always will." He lives in Atlanta and accepts the American way. "The main differences," Wright said, "are the food and lifestyle; America is more modern."

"The only thing I still really have trouble with is ... the mentality, er, language," Wright said. "I might say one thing, and it will be taken a different way. Or vice versa."

Still, it doesn't take a linguist to see that this phenom has 'The Wright Stuff' in the ring.

LARRY Z

Larry Zbyszko has an open-challenge to the entire Turner Broadcasting Systems conglomerate. From TBS founder Ted Turner to WCW's Executive Vice President/General Manager Eric Bischoff to the wrestlers, announcers, staff members and magazine personnel.

Few answer Zbyszko's call. Lex Luger, Sting and WCW's trainer Chuck Tache were among the brave to test Zbyszko in recent months and, like so many before them, they too failed.

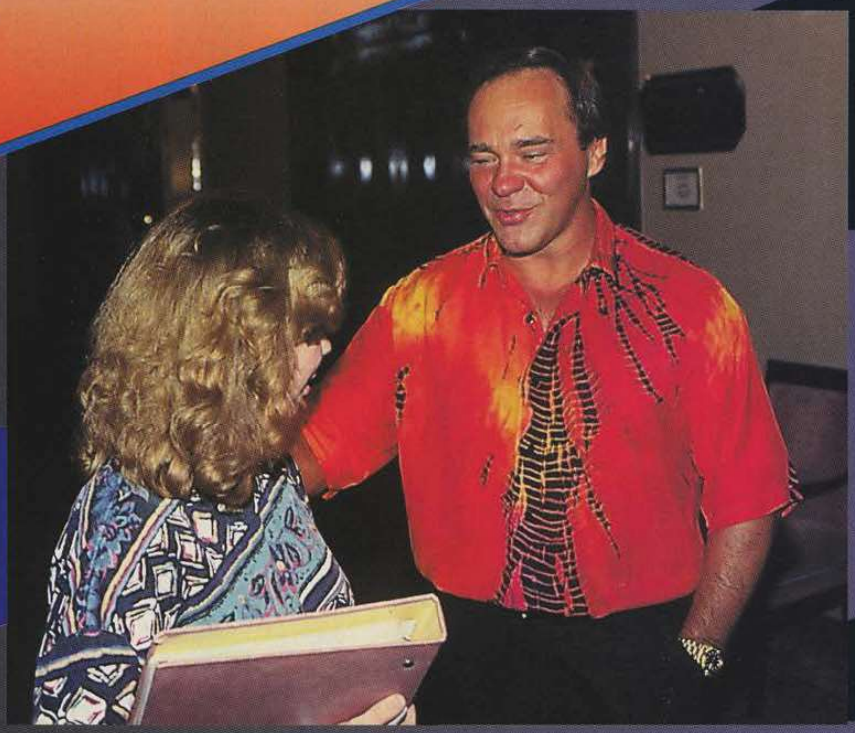
Oh, by the way, the competition is on the links, not inside the squared-circle.

"Golf is now my pet project," Zbyszko says with a smile. "I'm seeing if I can get professional status; I'm thinking about going to some of the U.S. Open qualifiers."

And why not. He has a two handicap and rarely shoots higher than a 75. Nicklaus, Palmer and Zbyszko ... three Living Legends.

"Golf is my next thing to conquer," said Zbyszko, who plays at least twice-a-week on courses across America. "Like wrestling, golf is a sport of science. It's not how hard you swing; it's a matter of discipline, practice and mind-control; you've got to maintain concentration. I like to use my mind when I'm golfing because that's what got me through the wrestling business."

Zbyszko is pushing 25 years in pro wrestling as one of the most controversial, most hated men ever in the profession. He has been a pro since leaving Penn State University in 1973 and has had legendary matches with Bruno Sammartino, Lord Steven Regal and so many others. He has been a tag team champion with Arn Anderson (won in September of 1991) and held numerous other titles. In fact, Zbyszko was the last AWA Heavyweight Champion before the Minnesota-based federation folded almost six years ago.



"I feel great. I'm healthy. My knees and elbows are fine. I work out daily and still bench-press 400-pounds. I feel like I'm 25-years-old," Zbyszko said. "I could get back in the ring tomorrow and feel great."

"The fans might not realize that it's only been just over two years — June 23, 1994, to be exact — that I lost the WCW TV title. And, I never officially retired; I just kind of wound up in the broadcast booth after running out of opponents. Sure, it's worked out well, but, that doesn't mean I won't step back into action again."

But only against one of three opponents. Ric Flair, Randy Savage and Hulk Hogan "are the only wrestlers worth my while to wrestle," he said. All others, Zbyszko added, would be a no-win situation in that "it's my reputation and body that would be on the line."

In the meantime, Zbyszko will sit ring side each and every week for the first hour of Monday Nitro live on TNT (8-10 p.m. ET). He teams with Tony Schiavone and, like his wrestling career, has a no-holds-barred approach.

"Nitro is going great. It's an exciting show to broadcast because it's live. There's so much electricity ... I really like doing it," Zbyszko said. "Tony is smooth, very good at what he does, which makes the job so much easier than working with Dusty Rhodes (on WCW Pro telecasts). You can understand what Schiavone says. Dusty says a lot and I'm sure he tries to have a point ... you just don't know what it is."

"I really don't know if I have a broadcasting style; I just call the action like I see it. I'm an emotional guy so, yeah, I can't help but get emotionally involved in some of the matches. Plus, I know what some of these guys are going through; it kind of hits home because wrestling has been the one and only love of my life. I'll see these guys hit the cement and I almost pop off the chair because I know how much that hurts."

"I guess the best way to describe my broadcasting would be exciting."

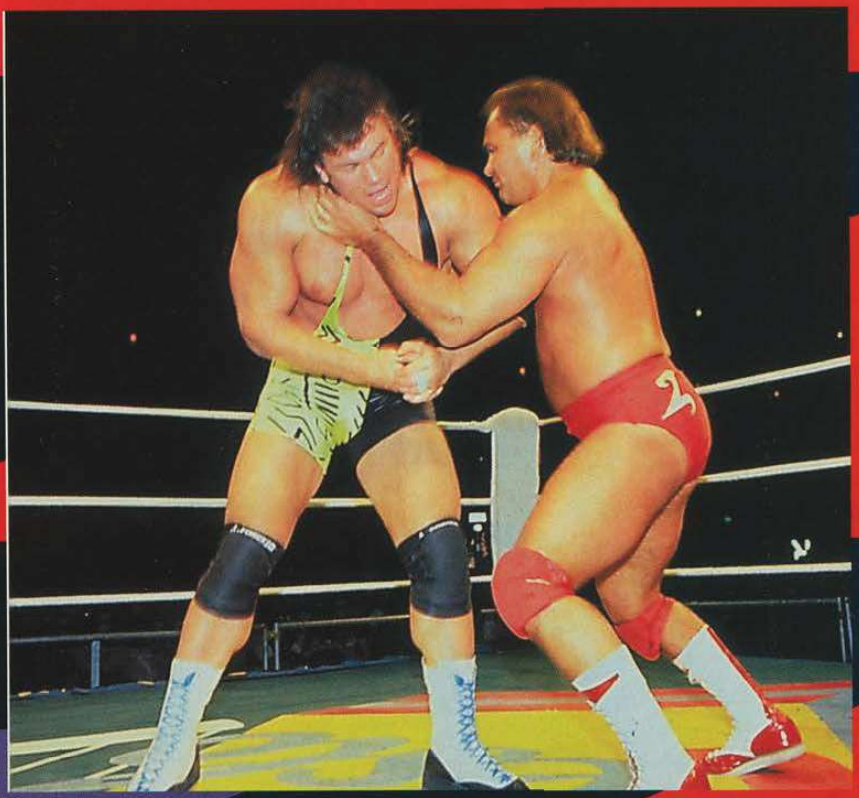
Just like his wrestling. Well, it's also safe to say he was hated, loathed and despised by most. As a wrestler, Zbyszko was a scientific star, a psychological whiz on a par with the reigning grand master, Ric Flair. Zbyszko also was willing to battle-it-out if need be. Thus, he was a champion on many occasions in numerous organizations, including, WCW and the AWA. He also was the Georgia National Heavyweight champ and the Western States Heritage champ.

"Of all the opponents over the years, I'd have to say Bruno Sammartino, in 1980, was the most emotionally-impacting," Zbyszko said. "That was a very personal issue with Bruno, not just professional like for a belt or money or something like that."

So, Larry, who will be the stars in the year 2000?

"Ice Train, Eddie Guerrero, Dean Malenko, Chris Benoit and Harlem Heat."

"WCW, at this moment, is great," Zbyszko said. "Frankly, I don't think wrestling has been this exciting, or even talked about this much, in 15- or 20-years. I think it's wild. WCW is the hottest thing in town. The New World Odor, as I like to call them, have come into WCW wanting to take over and turned this place upside-down."



"Hulk Hogan has turned bad; he's now the man in black with a knife in-hand, slashing the hearts of Hulkamanics worldwide. Scott Hall and Kevin Nash, The Outsiders, run wild, doing what they want, when and where they want."

"For the past couple of years, Hulk Hogan has been booed in every arena he's gone into, and I think he resented it. I also think Hulk Hogan has got to the point where a lot of other people also got when they become rich and famous: their heads were a lot bigger than their necks," Zbyszko said. "Well, I think Hogan should look at history, look back at guys like Napoleon Bonaparte and Julius Caesar, and everyone else who thought they were going to start a new world order or a master race, and see what happened to them because, if you don't study history, you're going to be doomed to repeat it."

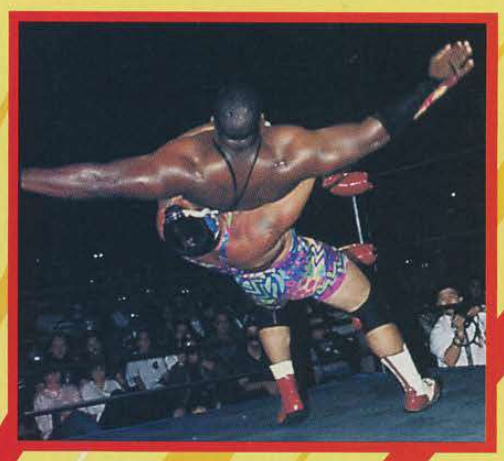
"Hall and Nash are opportunists who are going to try to take the back door into the major league of professional wrestling. I have been a bit surprised by some of their antics, and I'm not talking about jumping into the ring to wreak havoc because I invented that. I am surprised when people bust into (TV) control trucks or throw an announcer (Eric Bischoff) off a stage."

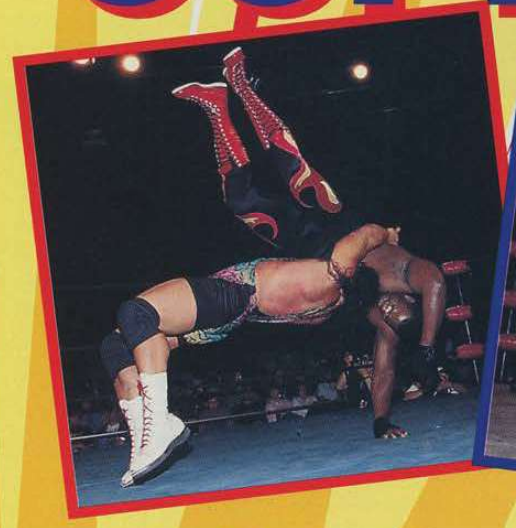
Is Larry worried for his personal safety, much like fellow Nitro announcer Bobby "The Brain" Heenan?

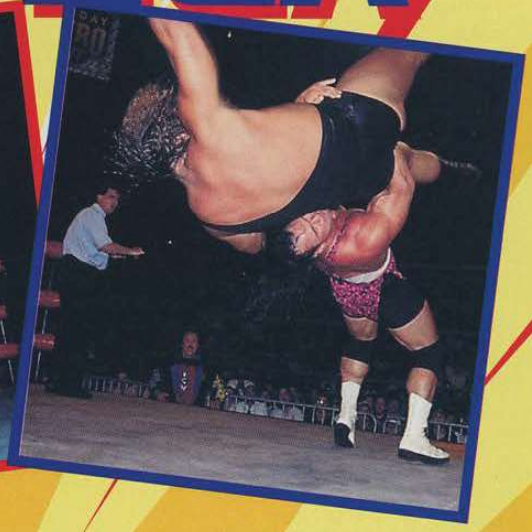
"Trust me, I've been looking over my shoulder quite often since The Outsiders arrived. I'm always on guard when broadcasting," he said. "I've always done my damage mano-a-mano, and that's what I expect any man who is a real man would do."

If not, Zbyszko is always ready, willing and able to step up to bat.

Masters of the SUPLEX







When Rick and Scott Steiner made their electrifying, unexpected return to World Championship Wrestling in mid-April, they came home with one goal in mind: re-claiming the WCW Tag Team title that the brothers from Michigan last held during the summer of 1992.

Well, it took them just over three months to accomplish their goal, as they defeated Harlem Heat on a Wednesday in late-July in Cincinnati for the straps. However, the Steiners' fourth title reign lasted only three days when the bad boys from Harlem stole them back for a record breaking 6th time on the Saturday in Dayton.

"My brother and I want to prove we are the top tag team in the world," said Rick, the tattooed Steiner, "and I think we've done just that by winning over Harlem Heat. We showed we are back on track, not to say we ever fell off."

Said Scott: "We started our return in WCW at the bottom (of the tag team totem pole) and have worked our way up to the top, stopping any and all the teams that were thrown our way."

"We had been away from WCW for a couple of years, focusing on the international (wrestling) scene," Scott said, "and, because of that, a lot of 'experts' speculated that we would be rusty when we returned to WCW. Well, I think my brother and I proved that any rust wore away rather quickly."

Added Rick, "Harlem Heat is a good team. In fact, they are a great team. They do a lot of the same things that we do. Booker T is quite similar to my brother in terms of the high-risk, off-the-top-rope moves (that he does); plus, he's very skilled at the martial arts, which is helpful and effective. I think my brother is stronger and bigger than Booker T, and my brother's amateur background gives him the advantage over Booker T. Stevie Ray is the Heat (member) who is sort of like the clean-up guy on the team; he's the brawler of the two, an alley-fighter, if only because he's big and strong. I think I'm a little more agile, quick on my feet than Stevie Ray which gives me the advantage. Yeah, they are a good team, but not as good as my brother and I. What helps us, especially against the Heat is, we've been together longer and our international experience."

And, of course, the Steiners' amateur background, which dates back more than 20 years (for each) to their days in Bay City, Mich., then at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, certainly is the team's biggest plus. Against all other teams, of friends or foes, bigger or smaller.

Rick and Scott each spent countless hours in the Wolverines' gyms, practicing under the watchful eye of coach Steve Fraser, a 1984 Olympic gold medalist (and current coach) in greco-roman wrestling. Plus, the Steiners had training from Brad Rheingans, the former pro grappler who, in 1980, was to have competed in the Olympics that the USA boycotted.

"There are only a few pro wrestlers, probably only enough to count on one hand, who have an extensive amateur wrestling background. That (list) includes V.K. Wallstreet, "Dr. Death" Steve Williams and only a few others," Rick began. "As I'm sure each (amateur) wrestler will attest, that experience is very important and helpful when you get into the pro ranks. When you've been wrestling since you were, oh, eight- or nine-years-old, as has been the case for me and my brother, you're quite familiar with suplexes, single-leg takedowns, fireman's carries, etc. You have a big advantage over, say, the wrestler who just got into the sport at age 20 or so. It's a huge advantage. Wrestling isn't something you just pick up over night, or even after two-, three-, or four-years. It's something you do consistently over a period of time, then it gets engrained in your soul. My brother and I have been successful — at the amateur and pro ranks — because of our cohesiveness and our experience."

Said Scott, "Early on, my brother and I each knew that the only way we were going to get better was if we were there (on the mat) with great competition. Sure, we were thrown around a lot early on, but it paid off ... my brother and I are now the ones doing the throwing."

And that usually means suplexes, because the Steiners are the masters of this powerful, painful (for their opponent, of course) move. Rick and Scott can each suplex a foe at any moment in a match from almost anywhere in the ring. Yes, that's a plus, to say the least.

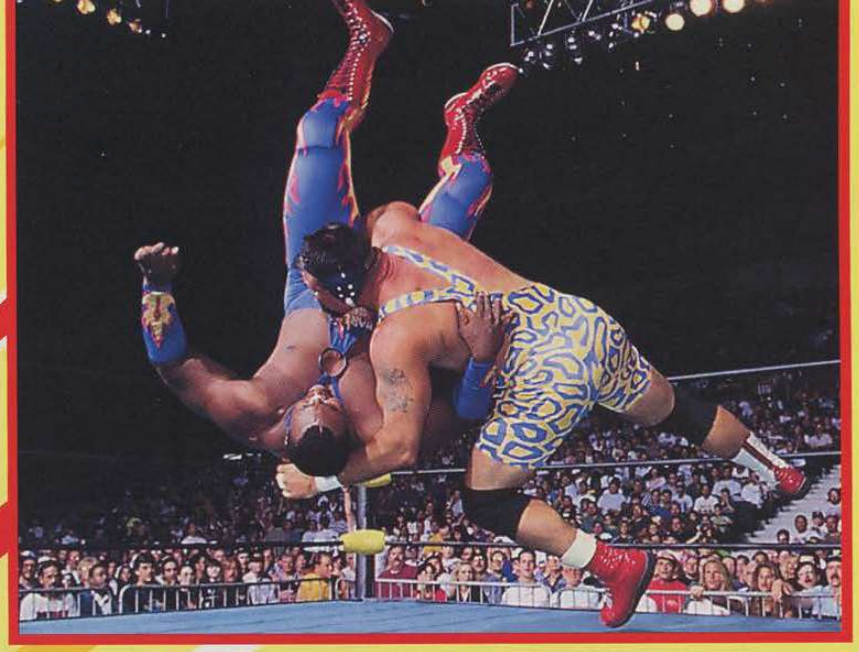
"Sure, there are other wrestlers who can do suplexes, much the way there are any number of 'general-practice' doctors. But how many doctors are skilled specialists?" Rick said. "I think our effective use of the suplex is one of the main things that separates me and my brother from other tag teams. We each have practiced suplexes day in, day out for the vast majority of our lives. And when you do something day in, day out, you get a good sense of how and when to do the move ... you can only get better."

When it comes to the suplexes, the Steiners wrote the book, and their hit is a New York Times best-seller. Just consider some of the chapters:

BELLY-TO-BACK (also commonly called a German Suplex).

Rick gets behind his often groggy opponent, then locks his hand, fingers intertwined, around his opponent's waist. Rick then takes the foe over backward, driving his shoulders and the back of his head into the mat.

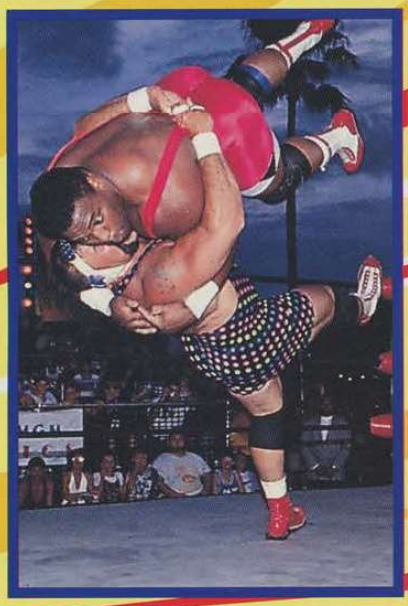
"I like that one," Rick said, smiling. "When I've got my hands locked, I know he's not getting out; there's really nothing he can do ... and that's a pretty dominant feeling."



OFF THE TOP ROPE.

Considered the most high-risk suplex, but The Steiners perfect the move with the ease of an Olympic gold medalist.

Both Steiners are regulars with this move.



BELLY-TO-BELLY.

"When I can look at an opponent eye-to-eye and know I've got him locked in and am ready to throw him across the ring, it's a good feeling," Rick said.

LEG-LOCK SUPLEX.

This is one of Scott's specialties, and often can be carried into a finishing maneuver.

ARM-IN-ARM SUPLEX.

Often executed by Scott, this hold features an opponent's arms forced behind his back, chicken wing-style. Some wrestlers say this move is the most painful.

STEINER SCREW-DRIVER

A version learned and named in Japan, this maneuver often used by Scott starts as a suplex then turns into a piledriver.

"My outlook on wrestling is simple, I'm getting paid to go into the ring to fight; that's why I have the nickname Dogface Gremlin. I'm getting paid to beat my opponent, and that's what I'm going to do and, yeah, that often includes applying any number of suplexes in a match," Rick said. "If there's a way I can beat an opponent with a move or skill I have perfected, such as a suplex, you can bet I'm going to do it. I don't go out to maim my opponent, unless there's a reason to do it. I basically just go out there to physically dominate my opponent, to beat him ... and a suplex often is a key to that."

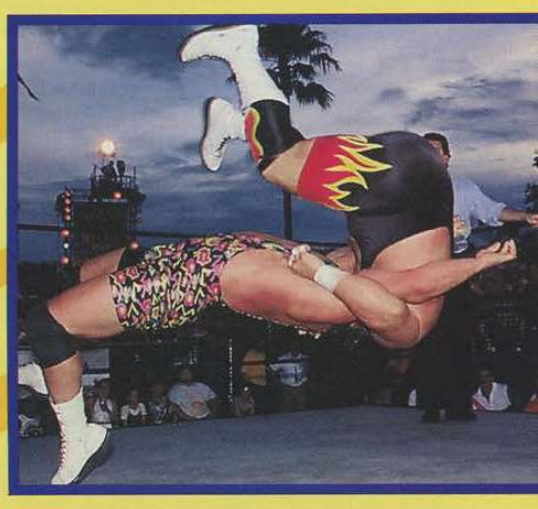
Added Scott, "Suplexes have been very successful for my brother and I; that's why we use them so much. Without the offense that we carry from the suplexes, I think we'd be lacking."

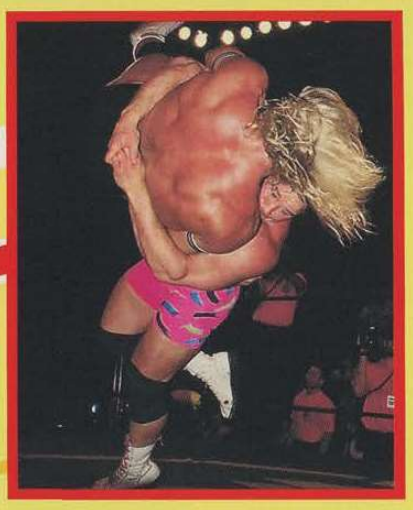
The Steiners' supply of suplexes offers an incredible psychological advantage, over all opponents. It's almost as if they have a one-count before the match even starts.

"With the suplex, we can pick up an opponent and throw him on his back — inflicting a lot of pain," Scott said. "Unless you've been in the ring as much as we have, and have practiced the moves as many times as we have, you just don't know how to correctly apply or defend the hold. That too is an advantage on our part."

So, Scott, how can someone counter the suplex?

"I'd hate to give the defense to some move that I'm successful at; I don't want to give away any secrets," Scott said, smiling again.





The few successful counters can be a quick spin away once one of the Steiners grab you, but that often can just lead into another version of the suplex. So, the best defense is, quite simply, grabbing the ropes.

"A suplex is just all balance and technique," Rick said. "It's one of the most effective, damaging, slow-down, knock-out moves in the sport."

And quite painful to the recipient. That's because Rick, for instance, uses his weight to flip over. And the opponent lands first, usually on the back of his head and shoulder and, in the process, cushioning Rick's fall.

BLOOD RUNE COLA

INTRODUCING...

Years ago there was an American teenager fascinated with martial arts. His father taught him all he knew, but, the youngster's potential and lifelong dedication to the sport quickly proved to be too great for their small at-home training camp. So, the teenager went to Japan, with his father's blessing, to fine-tune his form from a world-renowned master instructor.

The training was grueling, some might say torturous, and it went on for years in a remote village. Still, other youngsters from around the world eventually joined this boot camp-like discipline that — under this master's watchful, scrupulous eye — is a dynamic, combative form of fighting that combines martial arts with pro wrestling.

Glacier, a name given by the master, became the top student over time, thus becoming The Chosen One to pass on his knowledge to WCW fans — and also to fellow WCW wrestlers — about the effectiveness of his style which combines fearsome fighting with top-notch sportsmanship and humbleness.

GLACIER

"I have not come into WCW to change pro wrestling as we know it," Glacier said. "Nope, I just want to take what I've learned from the martial arts and make my wrestling skills more effective. I've competed all over the world, in many different forms of martial arts competitions and wrestling matches. WCW is where the greatest athletes in the world are, so, that's where I want, where I need to be. I want to share my ability with the fans of WCW, and also, test my skills against the very best athletes in the world ... and that's in WCW."

Glacier is an aggressive gladiator, a warrior who won't break the rules, even so much as to use a closed-fist on an opponent, no matter how desperate the situation. He has an array of strikes and kicks, and combines them with submission- and nerve-holds. His kicks are devastating and powerful, and is effective with straight-ahead power kicks and the popular round-wheel kicks. He is part-Meng, part-Great Muta, part-Eddie Guerrero all rolled into one.

Glacier can inflict excruciating pain any number of ways, regardless of a size differential inside the squared-circle. Instead of meeting an opponent head-on, Glacier will take his opponent's strength and use it against him.

"With a bigger opponent, such as John Tenta, the way I would attack that match is, I'd look to break that person down with devastating kicks, body blows and basically just try to stay away from him. I'd use a hit-and-run approach to get into a position where I could come out victorious," said the 6-foot-2, 250-pound Glacier who is among the 20-something generation.

"With the smaller wrestlers, such as Eddie Guerrero, I will look to slow them down to the point where I could take advantage of their weaknesses. I'd ground their attacks. I think the fans will be very impressed."

Glacier's Cryonic Kick finisher, a kick off the top rope, is unlike anything in the sport. And so is his prized, ceremonial Samurai warrior's helmet, a 400-year-old tradition that goes from master-to-top-student. Glacier places it on a ring-post during matches so he can keep it under his watchful eye. Glacier's mask that he wears to the ring is not worn to conceal his identity, but rather, as respect for all of the similar combatants of the past.

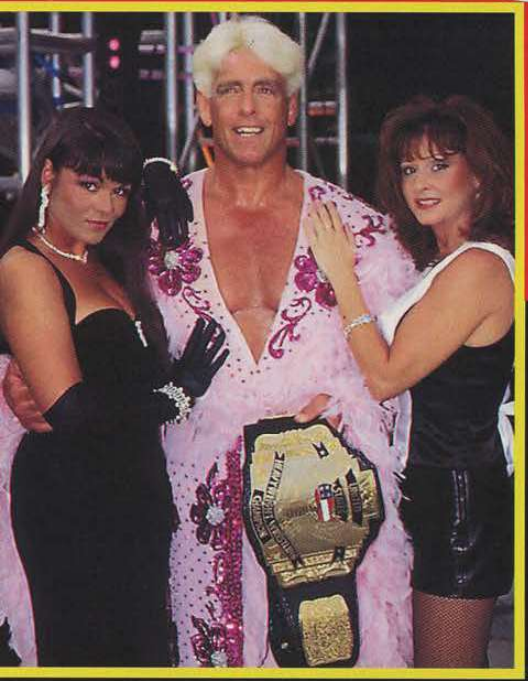
"To me, the helmet is invaluable. I'd risk anything to protect it, to make sure nothing happens to it," Glacier said.

"Regardless of who I'm facing, friend or foe, I want to win. I will do whatever is necessary to win; I don't offer mercy."

Still, Glacier is the most upstanding knight in the sport. He's a big brother-like battler with a mission.

"I lead my life by three simple mottos," Glacier began, "Peace lies not in the world, but in the man who walks the surface ... For all actions, good or bad, there are consequences ... and, Destiny is not a matter of chance; it's a matter of choice."

Still on TOP



At 47, 13-time World Heavyweight Champion Ric Flair is a kid at heart.

Which is why he may wrestler forever.

Ask why The Four Horsemen are so popular despite being bad guys and he laughs and says, "Well, why do you like us? You've partied with us."

But ask why he's still wrestling after 23 grueling years in the business, with many of those years spent on the road before pay-per-view could bring the World Champion into everyone's living room, and Flair turns serious.

"I've had good health. That's No. 1," Flair said. "I can take more punishment than anyone in the business. I've learned my craft. And they haven't found a lot of guys of my quality that also have my work ethic and my enduring love of the sport."

In other words, he can't be replaced. But modesty, of all things, has always prevented Ric Flair from saying that.

Make no mistake about it, Flair is the best wrestler in history, On a good night, he's still the best wrestler in the world.

Because he still wants to be.

"When a lot of guys have to wrestle 20 minute time limit matches on TV, they say, 'Oh, God.' They don't want to," Flair said. "My attitude is, I'd rather have 30 minutes. I want as much TV time as possible. I want to show my skills."

Flair says he realized five years ago that if he stayed healthy, he could wrestle as long as he wanted. He's gone into private business, opening a chain of Gold's Gyms throughout his home state, North Carolina.

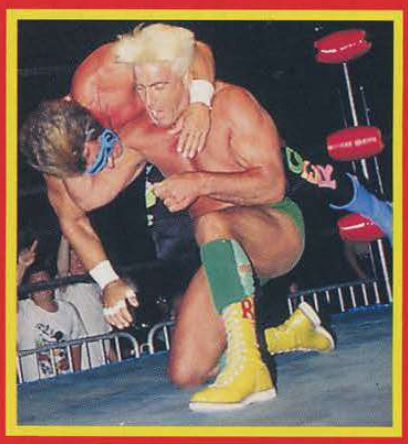
A variety of factors have convinced him to stay in wrestling.

One of those is WCW Monday Nitro on TNT.

"I enjoy the live Nitro format," Flair said. "It's brought a huge new awareness to wrestling, a huge new visibility. More people are talking about wrestling now than any time I can remember since about 1989."

"I feel very fortunate to be part of Nitro."

Nitro is getting the better of that bargain. The program has followed a simple formula: Need a rating? Put Ric Flair in the main event.



Flair is a great in-ring performer. He may be the most selfless wrestler in history, bouncing around like a ping-pong ball making sure his matches are always memorable.

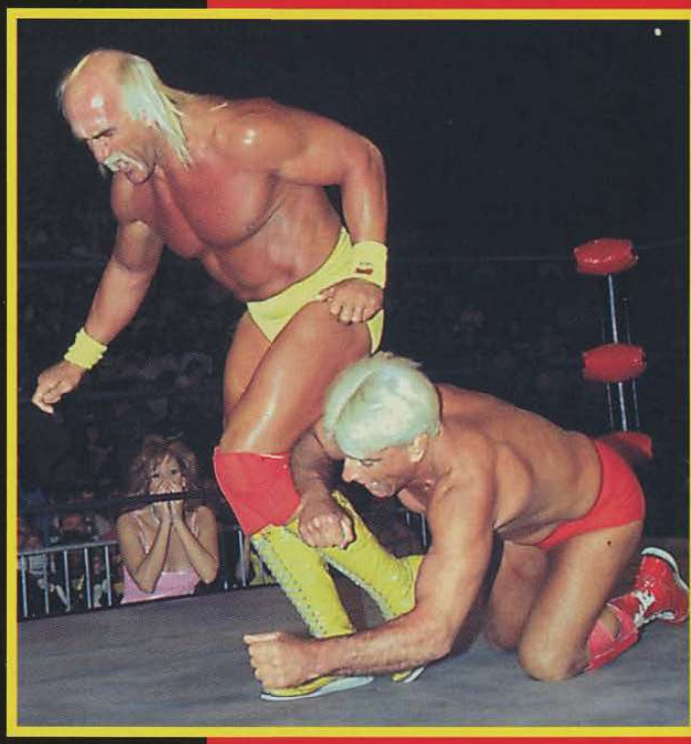
"But wrestling is only part of it, " said Flair. "You have to be able to talk. You have to have the persona."

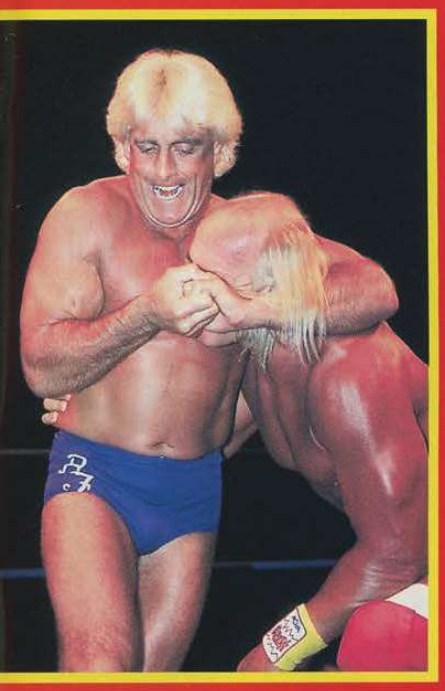
"In my interviews, I have to make sure the focus is equal. When I do interviews now, I have to make sure the fans focus not only on me but on Arn, Liz, Woman and my opponent. When you do an interview, you sell the product — which is myself and pro wrestling — and the upcoming event."

Sometimes it seems preposterous when every Nitro, every Clash, every pay-per-view is heralded as the biggest event in wrestling history.

But Flair buys into that.

"Whenever you're on TV, you have to make the people understand that whatever is coming up next is the biggest match of your career." he





said. "With the Nitro format, you have to make the people understand that every week. The guys who can't do that fall by the wayside pretty quickly."

Flair won't put a clock on how much longer he'll wrestle.

"Sometimes I think two more years, but I told you two more years two years ago, and here I am," Flair said, laughing.

"As long as I feel like I'm one of the top 5 or 10 in my profession, I'll stay with it. If I don't feel that way tomorrow, I'll be gone. I'm not just talking about interviews. I'm talking about the physical part, too."

"I used to think I'd quit when I wasn't No. 1. But as long as my peers recognize me as being in the top 5 or 10, I can accept that."

Flair has wrestled all the greats of his time.

But he'd like to give one guy one more try.

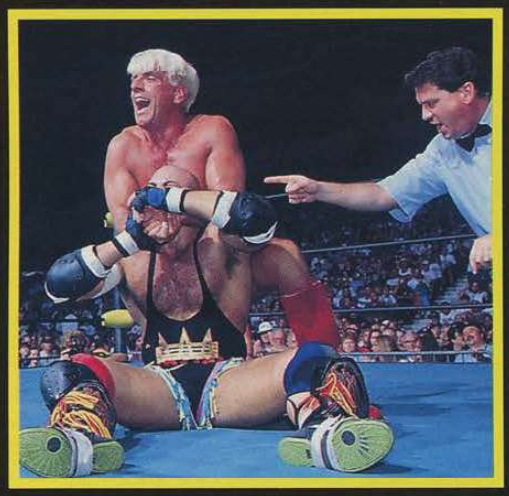
"I'd like to wrestle Shawn Michaels," Flair said. "I wrestled him once in about an eight-minute match (for home video) when I was up there. But I'd love to wrestle him again, for a lot longer than eight minutes this time."

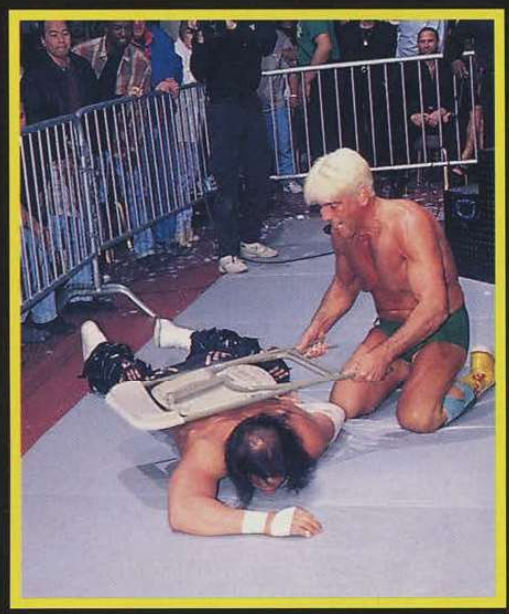
"I don't know if I see it coming. He'd have to come down here. But it would draw huge money. And I'd love it. He's the only guy I consider a true peer that I haven't wrestled in a meaningful match."

Flair has a long list of favorite foes.

"Ricky Steamboat," he started. "Sting; Harley Race; Wahoo McDaniel; Curt Hennig. I wrestled (the late) Bruiser Brody a lot. He was great."

"Sting is the only guy in that class that's really still around. I don't know why it works, but it does. It's almost as good as Steamboat. The people always watch it, that's for sure. The two highest-rated Saturday Night shows in the past six years both had us in the main event. We've done well on Nitro. We've done well on pay-per-view. We've done well on Clashes."





"Really, it's done huge every time we've wrestled with a legitimate issue. We have good chemistry. I play off his character well."

Getting back to The Four Horsemen thing ...

The Horsemen had been dormant since Brian Pillman's departure. The group splintered within the context of WCW shows. But The Great American Bash in Baltimore saw the newest incarnation of The Horsemen come together as former Chicago Bears lineman Steve McMichael turned on tag team partner Kevin Greene of the Carolina Panthers to join Flair, Arn Anderson and Chris Benoit.

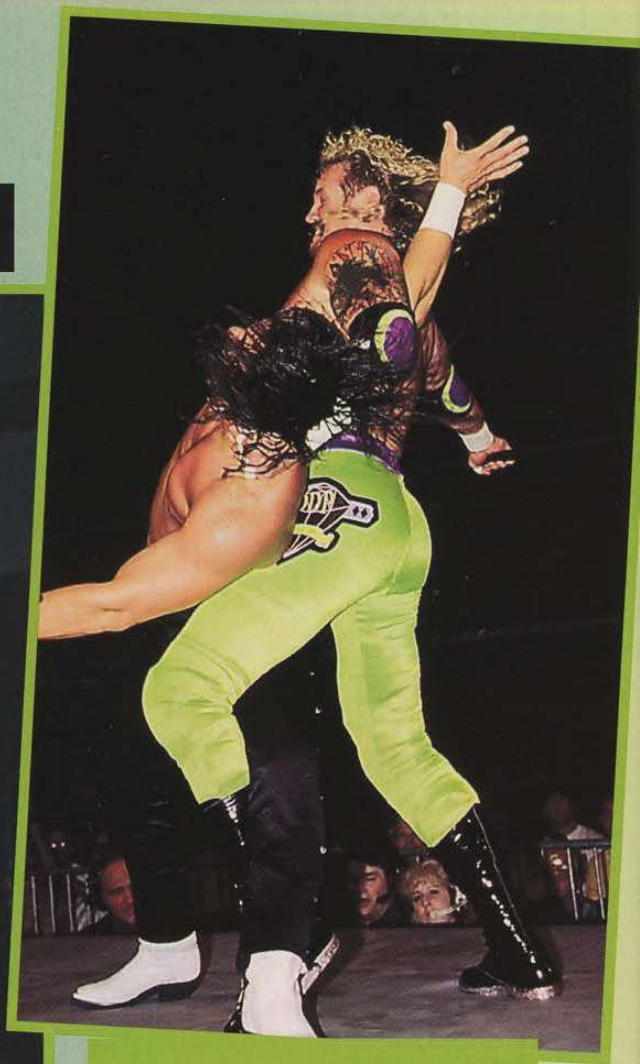
"Steve's gone from one Super Bowl to another," Flair said, chuckling. "He's a Super Bowl champion, a four-time All-Pro, an athlete with tremendous credibility. And he's decided that the final step to being the biggest superstar in crossover sports was to join the The Four Horseman. We are honored. This is one of the greatest periods in Horsemen history."

"We've had the best wrestlers in the sport. Now we have one of the best athletes in the history of the National Football League."

Flair got around to answering why fans cheer The Horsemen even though they're bad guys: "Because we've always been the best. They cheer us out of respect. And who wouldn't cheer limos, planes, girls and partying?"

Who indeed?

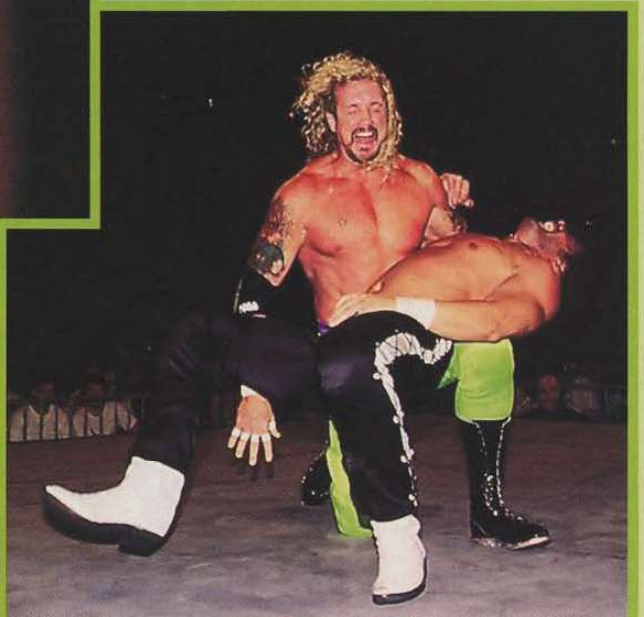
EXPERT ASSESSMENT



Diamond Dallas Page

Height: 6' 6"
Weight: 257lbs
Birthday: April 5th
Hometown:
Las Vegas
Signature Maneuver:
Diamond Cutter

In this exclusive WCW Magazine feature, four of World Championship Wrestling's most knowledgeable personalities take an up-close-and-personal look at current WCW Superstars. These aren't comments you'll hear at the arenas or on TV-these are the true beliefs of the biggest and most provocative mindsets in the sport today!



Diamond Dallas Page

Colonel Robert Parker

When someone mentions Diamond Dallas Page, the first thing that comes to my mind is money. He's got some, I know that. Maybe a lot, I really don't know. Sure I'd like to know exactly how much he has in his possession and how much he has access to, but right now I just don't know. He claims to have a Benefactor. Who is it? I don't know. It's not me. I know that. Is it my peach pie, Sherri? I don't think so. So who could it be? I think he needs to let me and the world know who this Benefactor is.

Col. Robert Parker is the self-proclaimed greatest showman in the world. He has several top WCW wrestlers under his guidance.

Dusty Rhodes

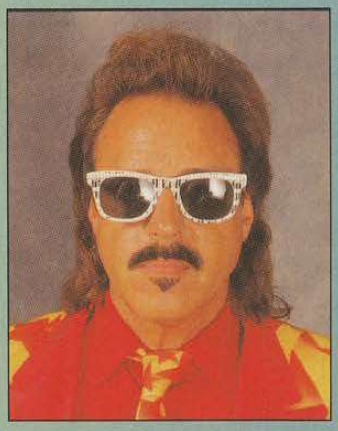
I tell ya, DDP's Diamond Cutter is the most devastating finishing hold in the sport today. It is the Finisher of the '90s, much the way Jake "The Snake" Robert's DDT was THE finisher of the '80s. DDP has perfected the Diamond Cutter to a science and the good thing about it is, as opposed to something like the Figure-Four leg-lock, he can put it on out of the clear blue. DDP doesn't even need to first soften ya up. Overall, DDP is a real overachiever with an inflated ego. He probably has worked as hard, probably even harder than the late Buddy Rogers or Lou Thesz. DDP just needs an attitude adjustment, and some guidance.

Dusty Rhodes, "The American Dream," is one of the most popular wrestlers of all time. During his incredible career he has managed to win the NWA World Heavyweight Championship on three different occasions.

Larry Zbyszko

Diamond Dallas Page is very serious about his career. He eats, sleeps and drinks professional wrestling. Unquestionably, Dallas is one of the hardest working wrestlers around. He video tapes each match, then studies the tape. Don't ever count out DDP. He started wrestling late in life and has had more than his share of ups and downs. He first was a manager, then ended up beating the guys he was managing. He's devoted his life to this sport. If any young wrestler is looking for someone to model themselves after in terms of dedication, DDP is the one.

"Living Legend" Larry Zbyszko is regarded as one of the greatest wrestlers in history. He is currently the co-host of WCW Monday Nitro Live on TNT.



Jimmy Hart

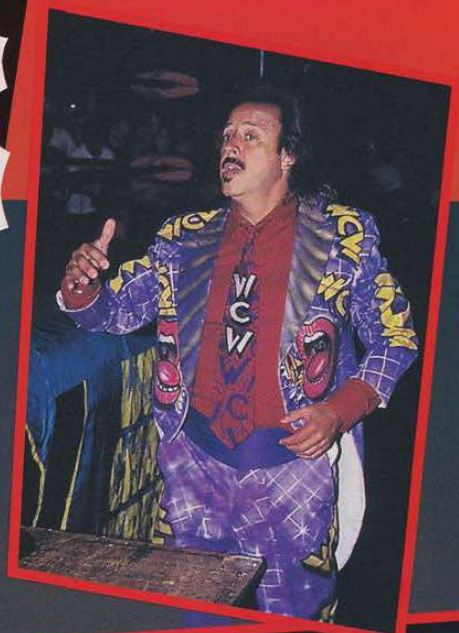
The thing that amazes me the most about Diamond Dallas Page is the simple fact that he is a wrestler. He was, ya know, once one of us. A manager. I never would have guessed he would become a wrestler, let alone a good one, a Champion wrestler with gold around his waist that he earned in a match. Diamond Dallas Page has turned into one of the best around. He's Dungeon of Doom material, I won't deny that. The thing that worries me is his intelligence. Or lack thereof. We do have a standard in the Dungeon and DDP certainly would fail an entrance exam. DDP needs to establish some consistency, and do so rather quickly. That will be the key for him.

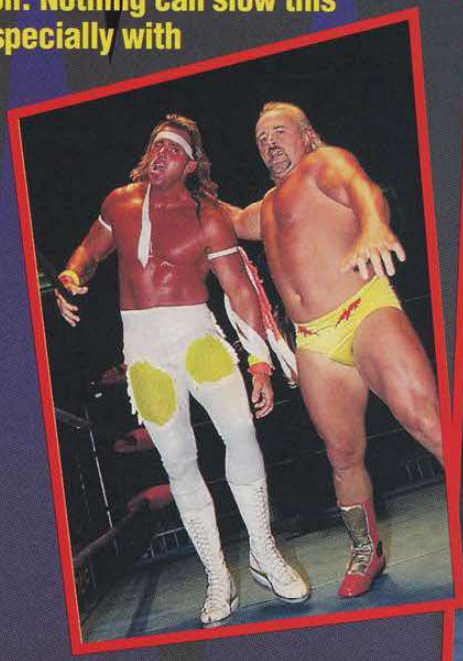
Jimmy Hart is arguably the greatest manager in the history of the sport. He is currently managing the Dungeon of Doom.

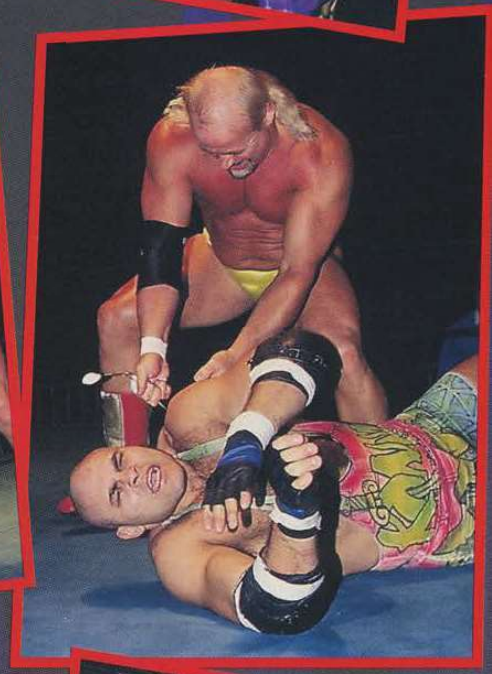
GENESIS

The Dungeon is reborn

Kevin Sullivan is a non-stop thinker. Sure, most of his thoughts are devilish, at best, but that's his way. He plans, plots and schemes at all hours. And when you run The Dungeon of Doom, a gang of thugs that includes The Giant, that's part of the job description. Nothing can slow this devious, deranged madman, especially with his gnat-like sidekick, Jimmy "Mouth of the South" Hart, egging him on.







But the dog days of summer were devastating to Sullivan and his entourage of hoodlums. They, namely The Giant, lost possession of the WCW World Heavyweight Championship to arch-rival Hulk Hogan, and they endured attacks from The Four Horsemen and The Outsiders, among others.

"As is the case elsewhere in WCW, The Dungeon of Doom is in turmoil," Sullivan admitted, his voice in a whisper. "We are being attacked by both sides of the fence: from within the company and also from outside of the company. We've got problems on both fronts."

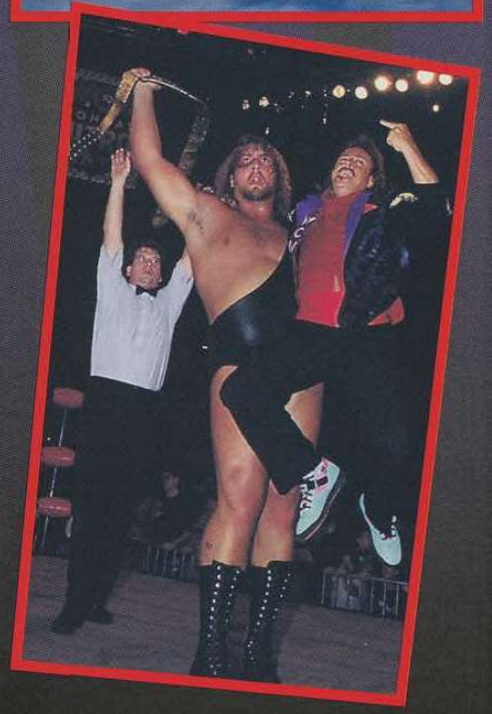
To that, Sullivan gathered his troops in mid-August — on the dark, desolate, dangerous streets of New York City, in the wee hours of the morning — to re-group, re-focus, re-dedicate themselves to being the most hated, most feared and most fearless foes in, and out of, the ring. It was a concentration session for all of Sullivan's troops: The Giant, Big Bubba, Hugh Morrus, The Leprechaun, Maxx and The Faces of Fear (Meng and The Barbarian).

"The Dungeon of Doom had its way for so long here in WCW yet, of late, we've gotten a little soft. And I'm not going to let that happen anymore," Sullivan said. "So, we will do whatever necessary to stay on top. If we all have to go to the desert, to fast, to pasteurize ourselves, to purify ourselves, we'll do it."

The Dungeon has always been home to a host of street thugs, all operating with barbaric ideas. They now roam WCW looking for the kill, or at least to maim and torture. WCW is, unquestionably, a survival of the fittest — and Sullivan guarantees survival for The Dungeon, even if it requires "gang warfare." After all, The Dungeon is the deepest crew among a cluster of WCW combatants.

"Our goal in The Dungeon is simple: wreak havoc on anyone who steps in our way," Sullivan said without hesitation. "Today is the day of Genesis, the time to re-pay everyone, from The Outsiders to The Four Horsemen. No one is going to escape the wrath of The Dungeon.

"The Four Horsemen — Ric Flair, Arn Anderson, Chris Benoit and Steve McMichael — is a group that I once had an alliance with. But they broke it, and no one ever crosses The Dungeon, especially The Taskmaster, and gets away with it. The Four Horsemen have something that belongs to me and I intend to get it back. That's all I want to say about it now ... it's (a subject) between me and The Horsemen, and it'll stay that way. Ric Flair was one of the greatest World Heavyweight Champions of all time, yet he certainly will feel the wrath of The Dungeon. He and I had an understanding. He never should have let this thing go as far as it



has. As for The Enforcer, Arn Anderson, he kicked me in the gut after I reached my hand out to him; no one does that and gets away with it. Chris Benoit is nothing but a savage little animal who has to be curtailed. When the final days come, Arn Anderson and Ric Flair are going to say to me, 'Kevin Sullivan, we're sorry; you were right about Chris Benoit.' Chris Benoit is the one who is going to destroy The Four Horsemen ... mark my words. He will be the one who destroys them; it'll happen from within. As for 'Mongo,' well, I don't know which side of the fence he lives on. In his heart, I honestly don't know if he can follow The Horsemen ways; I think he wants to be the leader of The Horsemen, and that could lead to his downfall."

Sullivan added: "That's the exact problem with The Four Horsemen: there is no definitive leader. In The Dungeon on the other hand, there are only two leaders: myself and Jimmy Hart. Everyone else follows, and they know that."

Sullivan's sadistic ways were dealt a severe blow in early-July and, in reality, he had nothing to do with it. At least not directly. It was, instead, Scott Hall and Kevin Nash, the founding members of The Outsiders, er, the New World Order (NWO).

Hall and Nash battled Sting, Lex Luger and "Macho Man" Randy Savage at The Bash at the Beach and when it was time to reveal their mystery partner, it turned out to be Sullivan's most hated antagonist: Hulk Hogan.

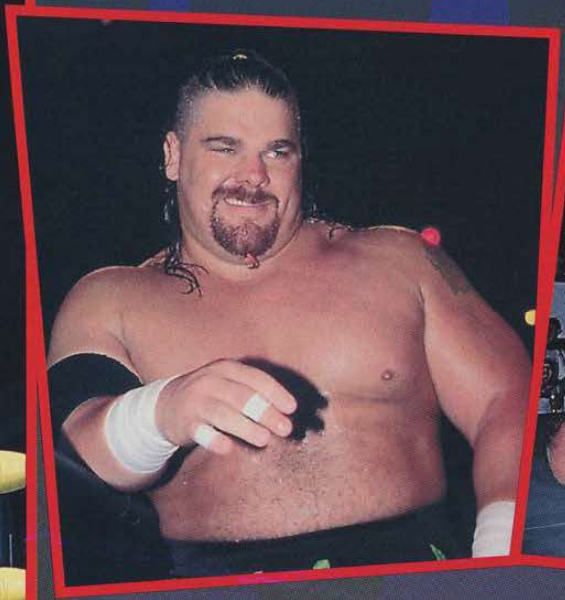
Sure, Hogan's Hulkamania run self-destructed, tearing out the hearts of millions worldwide, but since Sullivan couldn't do it himself, there was no satisfaction.

"If everyone had listened to me some 20 months ago, we wouldn't be in this problem now, would we?" Sullivan said.

"We're in this problem now because you all bought into the Hulk Hogan con game, the mystique of Hulk Hogan's red and yellow, all of the things he said he believed in, which, in reality, he never did.

"When Hulk Hogan came through The Dungeon for the first time, I told the world that there was more of me in him than of, him in me. And, as it turns out, he is lower and his darkness is a lot stronger than mine."

"I knew Hulk Hogan was going to self-destruct; I knew it was just a matter of time. And I predicted it. But, when you want something your whole life, when you have only one goal in life, and when someone else takes the goal ... well, it's upsetting, to say the least."



"I wanted to be the one to destroy Hulkamania; I wanted to show the people that he was no good, but he did it on his own. And, in doing so, Hogan took something from me that I can never get back. As for the people who bought into Hulkamania, I don't feel sorry for them. Not one bit because I don't care about the people. The people who listened to what spewed out of Hogan's mouth for all of those years, I'm glad they are suffering; I hope it's a trail of tears that is with them for the rest of their lives. If they had listened to me, the one who was chosen by The Master himself, they wouldn't be upset. So, that's why I want them to cry loud, long and hard."

Sullivan confirms he has had several recent phone conversations with The Master, who in now in Honolulu. However, Sullivan would not say what they spoke about.

"Maybe there's a ying to my yang. Maybe Hogan is my evil twin. Maybe The Master actually gave birth to two sons."

Sullivan said. "Enough about that ... as for Hogan, well, he will eventually destroy himself, and that will be my ultimate revenge. And I certainly am hoping that happens soon. Very soon."

What about The Outsiders?

"I have nothing to say about Hall and Nash," Sullivan snapped, his eyes blazing. "Yeah, sure, they've come into WCW and basically done whatever they've wanted to do, so, yes, in a way I kind of admire them. They've left a path of bloody bodies throughout WCW, which is kind of nice, but, if you've noticed, they haven't touched anyone in The Dungeon. And there's a reason for that: they're afraid of The Dungeon. And rightfully so."

Sullivan said he doesn't know if Hall or Nash "can be trusted enough" to be invited into The Dungeon. And, if any current Dungeon members are contemplating a jump to the NWO, Sullivan's advice was sharp: "don't

even think about it ... once you join those guys, you're gone from The Dungeon for good, and the torture you endure will make John Tenta's pain look like a slap on the wrist."

Sullivan confirmed the rumor that he is still looking to add members to The Dungeon, but he would not mention names or offer a time-frame. He did, however, say Jimmy Hart is spear-heading that drive, and, for Hart's full-time protection, Sullivan assigned Maxx to be Hart's personal bodyguard.

"Dungeon members have, at times, been singled out when it comes to title shots. Take, for instance, Meng and The Barbarian. Do you really think if they were given a legitimate shot at the titles that they would fail? Then, once they were champs, do you think anyone could take them away? I don't think so," Sullivan said.

"The bad luck that has been part of The Dungeon of late will stop today, I promise you that."

And you can bet Sullivan will go to whatever extreme necessary to fulfill his wish.

THE Regal DECREE

Once again, I must express my utter dissatisfaction with WCW's hierarchy. I was completely appaled at their decision to hold a pay-per-view, which is a prestigious event in the wrestling business, in Sturgis, S.D., in front of 250,000 greasy, despicable bikers. These gentlemen — and I shouldn't even call them gentlemen, but rather sub-forms of humanity — have nothing better to do with themselves than to act out their childhood fantasies and, in the process, cause grief to us normal, upstanding people. They have revolting dress, hideous manners and an unhealthy penchant for driving around on these incredibly loud and vulgar machines called Harley-Davidsons. I hope the officials here in WCW never hold such an event in Sturgis, S.D. again, because it offended not only myself, but also lower forms of humanity, like many of the other WCW wrestlers.

Let's move on to wrestling's so-called Immortal One, The Great Hulk Hogan who, for the past few months, has been degrading wrestling fans around the world, not to mention almost every wrestler, broadcaster and promoter. Well, a while back I made a statement on WCW Saturday Night about my feelings about Hulk Hogan, and they were censored on TV; however, I can say those remarks now without fear of backlash. Throughout history there have been several men who have been guilty of the most horrendous crimes against mankind. They never made a secret of their intentions. They have always been identifiable. They have stood up from the start and told everyone what they intend to do. Well, as far as I'm concerned, Hulk Hogan is far below all of those despicable characters from our past, because he turned his back on millions upon millions of people worldwide. Even in England there were children who looked up to this man, and he let them down as well. Mr. Hogan always preached the virtues of "Saying your prayers" and "Taking Your vitamins," then stabbed the hearts of every human who listened to him. This man, Mr. Hogan, makes me sick. He shouldn't be allowed on television anymore. He's a barbaric individual with no class or dignity. As for Mr. Hogan's original evil cohorts, Scott Hall and Kevin Nash, they aren't much better.

While I'm on the subject of the New World Order, or The NWO as they like to be known, I must say that America has no one to blame but itself for the acts of Mr. Hogan and his entourage. WCW officials have no reason to call the police, because America's legal system is so corrupt and profound ... it would have done no good. Yes, that's right, the inferior American justice system should take the blame for the actions of Mr. Hogan, Mr. Hall and Mr. Nash, three individuals with a serious attitude problem. As for Hall and Nash, they are nothing more than nobodys, and will continue to be nobodys until — and this is a big if — they officially join the ranks of WCW. That's because WCW is where you make your mark in the sport of professional wrestling. We, meaning WCW, are a worldwide company, with all of the best competitors from Japan, Europe, Mexico and all points in between. If any of The Outsiders are willing to sign a contract to wrestle myself, or any of my learned colleagues, Earl Robert Eaton or Squire David Taylor, our anger will be vented to the utmost.

There is one WCW "superstar," and I use that term quite loosely, who I would like to comment on: Mr. "Macho Man" Randy Savage. Sure, he is a WCW team-player as of my writing, but I am going on record right now: Don't be surprised if he turns his back on WCW at any moment. Mr. Savage and Mr. Hogan have a long history and while it appears as though they are at odds at the moment, I would not be surprised if, in reality, this was a plot by those two humongous egomaniacs. I believe a lot of you people will, and are, fouled by Mr. Savage, but I am able to see right through him.

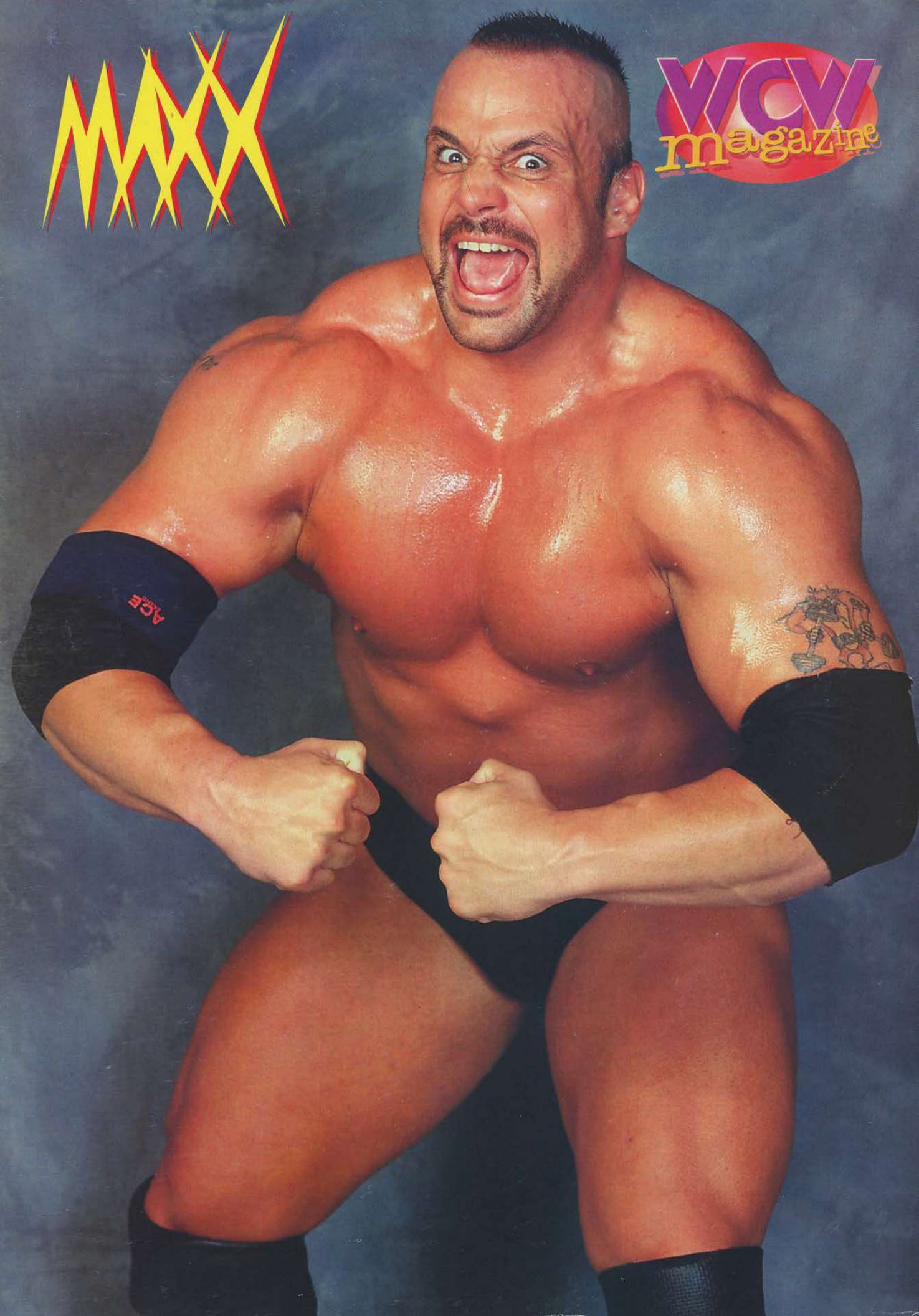
Hogan is the most despicable man in history

There have been a lot of rumors surrounding the working relationship between Earl Robert Eaton and Squire Dave Taylor, and let me stress that a rift between the two is just that ... a rumor. I once again want to categorically deny any problems. Sure, I am now focusing on singles action much more than tag team action, but that is my choice and the full reason for that is, plain and simply, my reason and nothing you need to know.

Speaking of singles action, I would now like to do something that I do not do often: issue a challenge. I would like to step into the ring against the IWGP Champion, whoever it may be as of press time. The IWGP, for you peasants, is the New Japan World Championship and, in my opinion, this is the only belt of true value, merit in the world. Sure, this statement might, and probably will, get me in some serious hot-water with the higher-ups in WCW, but, quite simply, I don't care! Some of the nonsense that goes on here in WCW, well, that takes away from the prestige of the WCW World Heavyweight Championship. But in Japan, there is no nonsense. I hope to become the first Englishman to win this championship and, in time, I'm sure I will be.

In closing this month, I would like to issue a formal protest: to the WCW Executive Committee and to Mr. Diamond Dallas Page. I find it very offensive for any other wrestler in WCW to be called a Lord. And the thought that Mr. Page is the so-called "Lord of the Ring" is nothing but a disgrace to the sport of wrestling. Mr. Page is nothing more than a two-bit, bloody hustler, and as for his wrestling skills, they are shallow at best.

Until next month, carry on ...


MAXX
WCW
magazine
ACE

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING AND SLIM JIM PRESENT

A NIGHT OF TERROR AND SUSPENSE!

slim jim BRAND

HALLOWEEN HAVOC

WCW™

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

Turner Premiere — A pay-per-view service of Turner Home Satellite

1-800-843-9266

DIRECTV

1-800-347-3288

8PM ET / 5PM PT

RingTheBell.com on Archive.org

WCW Live only on Pay-Per-View

CALL YOUR LOCAL CABLE OR SATELLITE COMPANY TO ORDER NOW!

NOTE: CARD SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

THE GIANT

WCW magazine